834 Rev. Wm. Reid

MINUTES

OF

THE SYNOD

OF

SOUTH-CAROLINA AND GEORGIA

AT THEIR SESSIONS

IN COLUMBIA, S. C.

December, 1833.

WITH

AN APPENDIX.

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THE
SOUTH CAROLINIANA
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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

COLUMBIA, S. C. Dec. 5, 1833.
11 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod of South-Carolina and Georgia met according to adjournment, and was opened with a Sermon by the Moderator, the Rev. Alonzo Church, D. D. from 1 Corinthians, 9, 12th. "Nevertheless we have not used this power, but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the Gospel of Christ."

Constituted with prayer.

PRESENT.

Presbytery of South-Carolina.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Moses Waddel, D. D.	Robert Cunningham,
Richard B. Cater,	Liberty Spring, Church.
Isaac W. Waddel.	Nathaniel Harris, Willington Church.
	James Pursley, Lebanon Church.
	James Dorroh, Friendship.

Presbytery of Hopewell.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Remembrance Chamberlain.	(None.)
Henry Reid,	
Samuel K. Talmage,	
Alonzo Church, D. D.	
Edwin Holt,	
Samuel Cassels,	

Presbytery of Harmony.

John Cousar,	G. T. Snowden,
Thomas Goulding, D. D.	Columbia.

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MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
George Howe,	James K. Douglas, Camden.
Robert Means,	Jas. English, Salem.
Robert W. James,	James McCreight, Winnsborough.
Urias Powers,	John E. McCaskell, Darlington.
Rufus W. Bailey,	David George, Beaver Creek.
William Brearley,	James McKonn, Hopewell.
Jeptha Harrison,	
Robert B. Campbell,	
S. S. Davis.	

Charleston Union.

B. M. Palmer, D. D.	Charles McIntire, 3d Presbyterian Ch.
A. W. Leland, D. D.	Samuel Clark, Beach Island.
B. Gildersleeve,	B. F. Whitner, Hamburgh.
Elipha White,	
Edward Palmer,	
Adam Gilchrist,	
John A. Mitchell,	
Thomas Smith,	
John F. Lanneau.	

Presbytery of Georgia.

Robert Quarterman,	(None.)
Nathaniel A. Pratt,	
Charles C. Jones,	
Dennis M. Winston.	

Presbytery of Bethel.

James B. Stafford,	Robert Lusk, Salem.
Wm. B. Davies.	John C. Jeter, Cane Creek.
John B. Davies,	Samuel F. Dunlap, Waxhaw.
	Hugh Thomson.

ABSENT.

Presbytery of South-Carolina.

Samuel Davis, Hugh Dickson, Wm. H. Barr, D. D. John B. Kennedy, Alexander Kirkpatrick, Anthony W. Ross, Michael Dickson, David Humphreys, Benjamin D. Dupree, Wm. Carlile, Samuel B. Lewers, John L. Kennedy.

Presbytery of Hopewell.

Edward Pharr, William B. Richards, James Gamble, Joseph Y. Alexander, John Harrison, Carlisle P. Beman, William Quillen, Arthur A. Mooney, John Brown, D. D. John Boggs, John S. Wilson, Nathan Hoyt, Robert McAlpin, Henry Safford, Thomas F. Scott, James C. Patterson, Hampden C. Carter, Wm. K. Patton.

Charleston Union.

William A. McDowell, D. D. Arthur Buist, John Dickson, Zabdael Rogers, John B. Van Dyck, Geo. W. Boggs.

Presbytery of Harmony.

George Reid, John M. Erwin, Nicholas R. Morgan, John McEwen, John Harrington, John McFarland, Constantine Blodgett, Charles Le Roy Boyd, John Rennie, T. Alexander Thomas R. English.

Presbytery of Georgia.

Wm. McWhir, D. D. Horace S. Pratt, Heman F. Blodgett, Daniel Baker, Joseph C. Stiles, James Olcott, Lawson B. Clinton, John B. Matthews.

Presbytery of Bethel.

Robert B. Walker, James S. Adams, Aaron Williams, Cyrus Johnston, John Leroy Davies.

The Synod then proceeded to the choice of Moderator and Clerk, when the Rev. John B. Davies, was chosen Moderator, and Richard B. Cater, Temporary Clerk.

Synod then had a recess until 3 o'clock, this Afternoon.

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3 *o'clock*, *P. M.*

Synod met.—Present as in the morning. The minutes of the last meeting were read.

The members present, who were absent at the last meeting, respectively rendered their reasons for absence, which were sustained.

The Rev. Wm. S. Plumer, from the Synod of the Chesapeake; the Rev. Mr, Fairchild, from the Synod

of Pittsburgh, and the Rev. Mr. Woodbridge from the Synod of Albany, being present, on invitation took their seats as Corresponding Members.

Letters were read from the Rev. David Humphrys and Wm. A. McDowell, D. D. assigning reasons for absence from the present Sessions, which reasons were sustained.

Dr. Waddel, Dr. Leland, Henry Reid, Robert Quarterman, ministers, and Messrs. Snowden and Dunlap, Elders, were appointed a committee to make arrangements for Public Service in this place during the present Sessions.

H. Reid, Isaac W. Waddel, Robert W. James, Edward Palmer, Jeptha Harrison, Ministers, and Messrs. George, McIntire, and Dunlap, Elders, were appointed a Committee of Bills and Overtures to meet this Evening, immediately after the adjournment of Synod, and afterwards upon their own adjournments.

John Cousar and Urias Powers, Ministers, and J. C. Jeter, Elder, were appointed a Committee to examine the Records of the Presbytery of South-Carolina.

Moses Waddel, D. D. and J. A. Mitchell, Ministers; and Robert Lusk, Elder, to examine the Records of Hopewell Presbytery.

Thomas Smith, James B. Stafford, Ministers, and Nathaniel Harris, Elder, to examine the Records of the Presbytery of Harmony.

Samuel K. Talmage, and N. A. Pratt, Ministers; and J. English, Elder, to examine the Records of the Presbytery of Charleston Union.

Wm. Brearley and Remembrance Chamberlain, Ministers; and James Pursley, Elder, to examine the Records of the Presbytery of Georgia.

Dr. Church, and A. Gilchrist, Ministers; and Samuel Clark, Elder, to examine the Records of the Presbytery of Bethel.

Dr. Leland, and Urias Powers, were appointed to examine the Minutes of the General Assembly, and report the subjects which may claim the special attention of this body.

Ordered, that Presbyterial reports be handed in to-morrow morning; and also Reports on the state of Religion.

Mr. James Harbison, an Elder, from Catholic Church, Bethel Presbytery, appeared and having assigned satisfactory reasons for his delay, took his seat as a Member of this body.

Messrs, Bailey, Pratt, Harrison, and Chamberlain were appointed a Committee to prepare a Narrative of the State of Religion within the bounds of Synod.

Synod then adjourned, to meet in this place to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met according to adjournment. Constituted with prayer.

Present as above, with the Rev. Samuel B. Lewers, from the Presbytery of South-Carolina, and Thomas R. Vardell, Elder, from 2d Presbyterian Church, Charleston, and Mr. C. B. Douglas, Elder, from Presbytery of Harmony, who, having assigned satisfactory reasons for their delay, took their seats as members of this Body.

Presbyterial Reports were called for. The Presbytery of Charleston Union handed in their Report; which was read and accepted, and from which it appears that they have, during the year, ordained Edward T. Buist and John F. Lanneau. That they have also licensed as probationers for the Gospel Ministry, John Leighton Wilson, James L. Merrick, Thomas R. Goulding, Wm. B. Yates, and William Moultrie Reid. That they have dismissed Mr. Wilson to put himself under the care of Harmony Presbytery. That they have received as a probationer under their care, Mr. J. B. Adger from the Presbytery of New-Brunswick. That they have received the Bethel Church under their care, and dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Dr. William A. McDowell and the 3d Presbyterian Church, Charleston.

The Presbytery of Harmony presented their Report, which was read and accepted, and from which it appears, that they licensed Thomas R. English at their last Fall Sessions, and on the 2d June, 1833, ordained him as Pastor of Hopewell Church. That in April last they dismissed the Rev. Constantine Blodgett to join the Presbytery of Georgia. That in September last, they received from the Charleston Union Presbytery, Mr. J. L. Wilson, a candidate for the Ministry, and ordained him as an Evangelist. That on 31st May, 1833, Rev. John McEweny departed this life. That on 30th November last, they dismissed the Rev. N. R. Morgan to join the South Alabama Presbytery. On the same day, they dismissed the Rev. John M. Erwin to join the Presbytery of Concord. That on the same day they received the Rev. John Witherspoon from the Presbytery of Orange, and the Rev. Thomas Goulding, D. D. from the Presbytery of Hopewell.

The Presbytery of Georgia presented their Report, which was read and accepted and from which it appears that they had dismissed the Rev. John B. Matthews to connect himself with the Presbytery of Philadelphia. That at the same meeting they received the Rev. Thomas Alexander from the Presbytery of Harmony; Ebenezer H. Snowden from the Presbytery of East Hanover; Alanson Benedict from the Association of East Fairfield Connecticut; J. C. Stiles and Dennis M. Winston from the Presbytery of Hopewell. They also report, that at the same meeting they dismissed Mr. John Baker, a Licentiate to become connected with the Presbytery of Hopewell. That they received under their care a Church recently organized at Tallahassee, and one organized at Mandorin, Florida. That they dissolved the pastoral relation between C. C. Jones and the Presbyterian Church in Savannah, to devote his services to the instruction of the colored population within their bounds. They moreover report, that on 20th of Nov. last, they dismissed the Rev. H. F. Blodgett, to join the Presbytery of Charleston Union; and received the Rev. Benjamin Burroughs from the Presbytery of

New-York. They further Report that the Rev. Alanson Benedict departed this life on October last, at Danville, Virginia.

The Presbytery of Bethel presented their Report which was read and accepted; from which it appears, that on the 6th of April, they licensed Mr. James Adams to preach the Gospel. That on 6th of Oct. they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Cyrus Johnston and the Congregation of Beersheba. That on 5th Nov. they dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. James B. Stafford and the Congregation of Purity; and on the 6th, that of the Rev. Aaron Williams and the Congregation of Bullocks Creek; and that since their last Report, they have organized a new church, by the name of Mount Pleasant, consisting of thirty-three members.

The Presbytery of South-Carolina presented their Report, which was read and accepted, and from which it appears, that since their last Report, they have dissolved the pastoral relation between Rev. Michael Dickson and the Congregation of Nazareth; and dismissed the said Dickson, to connect himself with the Presbytery of Hopewell, Ga. That they have received from the Presbytery of Hopewell, the Rev. John Boggs. That about the last of December last, the Rev. Alexander Kirkpatrick, was removed by death; and that they have received two new congregations under their care.

The Presbytery of Hopewell reported, that they licensed Messrs. J. W. Reid, Theodore M. Dwight, and John B. Smith, on the 2d day of April, 1833, to preach the Gospel. That they received on the 30th of March, Mr. John Baker, a licentiate of the Presbytery of Georgia under their care; and that on the 2d of April, they ordained him to the work of the ministry; and that they deposed from the work of the holy Ministry, William Moderwel, on 10th August, 1833. They have organized a Church named Bethel, in Columbia County, and have dismissed the Rev. John Boggs to join the Presbytery of South-Carolina. That on 2d of April, 1833, they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. C. P. Beman and

the Church at South Liberty; and that they have recalled the license of Mr. Ephraim S. Hopping.—They report further, that they have received during the year, four young men as candidates for the Gospel Ministry; and that on 1st of December, John W. Reid, a Licentiate, was ordained as an Evangelist; and that on the day previous, they received under their care, Mr. James George, as a candidate for the ministry.

On motion, the Narratives of the respective Presbyteries were committed to the Committee on the Narrative of the state of Religion. The Narrative of the Presbytery of Georgia was however read, and that part of it, which related to the instruction of the colored population, was referred to a committee to prepare a minute respecting it, to be placed upon our records—This Committee consists of Dr. Waddel, Messrs. S. S. Davis, C. C. Jones, Dr. Palmer, Robert Cunningham, Samuel Clark, S. J. Cassels, James English, and J. C. Jeter.

In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Synod at the last meeting, to devote two hours to religious exercises; and the time appointed having arrived, Synod had a recess, to meet at the close of these exercises.

After having spent the allotted time in reading the Scriptures, singing, prayer, and exhortation, Synod again met, when the Rev. Mr. Plumer, on invitation, presented his views respecting such an organization for the promotion of Foreign Missions as the spirit of the age called for, and as in his judgment was suited to the condition of our Southern Churches. Mr. P. occupied the house until 2 o'clock, when a recess of an hour was moved and carried.

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3 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met.—Present as in the morning, together with the Rev. Horace Pratt from the Presbytery of Georgia, and the Rev. Charles Leroy Boyd, from Presbytery of Harmony, the Rev. John Le Roy Davies from the Presbytery of Bethel, and Richard K.

Hines, an Elder, from the Presbytery of Hopewell, who having assigned satisfactory reasons for their delay, took their seats as Members of this Synod.

The Rev. Mr. Plumer resumed and concluded his remarks upon the subject of Foreign Missions.

The Rev. Mr. Fairchild, another Corresponding Member, who appeared as an Agent from the Western Board of Foreign Missions, was also invited to present the subject of his Agency before the Synod, which he accordingly did in a brief address.

On motion Resolved, That a Committee, consisting of one Minister and one Elder from each Presbytery be appointed, to which shall be referred the subject of Foreign Missions.

The Rev. Thomas Goulding, D. D. and James English, from the Presbytery of Harmony; the Rev. Samuel Lewers and Nathaniel Harris from the Presbytery of South-Carolina; the Rev. Henry Reid and Mr. Hines from the Presbytery of Hopewell; the Rev. Edward Palmer and B. F. Whitner from the Presbytery of the Charleston Union; the Rev. N. A. Pratt from the Presbytery of Georgia—and the Rev. John Leroy Davis and Mr. Lusk from the Presbytery of Bethel, were appointed a Committee upon Foreign Missions.

The Rev. Mr. Woodbridge, another Corresponding Member, Agent for the American Tract Society, on motion, was invited to present to the Synod, the purport of his Agency, which he accordingly did.

On motion Resolved, That a Committee, consisting of two Members be appointed, to prepare and submit a minute upon the subject of the Tract cause. The Rev. Messrs. Holt and Howe were appointed that committee.

The Rev. Isaac W. Waddel and Mr. Clark were appointed a Committee to devise means for the payment of an account for publishing Minutes of Synod.

Synod then adjourned to meet in this place to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, 7th Dec. 9 o'clock.

Synod met according to adjournment. Constituted with prayer. Members present as on yesterday.

The Committee to whom were referred the statements made by the Rev. Mr. Woodbridge on the subject of the Foreign distribution of Tracts, submitted their Report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows :

The American Tract Society having adopted adopted a resolution to appropriate $20.000 for the distribution of Tracts in Foreign and Pagan lands during the present year, Therefore resolved, That it be recommended to the Churches within the bounds of this Synod to take a public collection or subscription on or near to the 1st Monday of January, 1834, to aid the American Tract Society in carrying into effect the said resolution—That it be recommended also to the Churches to render to the Rev. Mr. Woodbridge their co-operation in the accomplishment of this object.

That the churches may be the better prepared to act upon the subject, the Committee would suggest that Mr. Woodbridge be authorised to issue to the churches within the bounds of this Synod, (upon his own responsibility) a printed Circular that shall embody the above resolution, with such statements, illustrative of the importance of the Foreign distribution of Tracts, as he may select.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures, reported, and presented three Overtures, which were accepted and ordered to be put upon the Docket.

The Committee appointed to examine the Minutes of Charleston Union Presbytery, presented their Report; which was accepted and recommitted to the same Committee to perfect their Report.

Mr. James H. Douglas, an Elder from Camden, requested leave to resign his seat to Mr. Daniel L. Dessessaure, his alternate, which was granted.

The Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary presented their Report, which was considered, accepted and adopted.*

* [See Appendix No. 1.]

REPORT

OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary, owing to circumstances which they could not control, have heretofore been under the necessity of presenting as their Reports to Synod, nothing more than the minutes of their proceedings. These, though full and explicit as minutes usually are, have failed to afford an adequate impression of the history, the condition, and the prospects of the Institution which has been confided to their care. To remedy this defect, the Board have thought it expedient to begin with the origin of the Seminary, and take a hasty survey of the proceedings of past years, that the Synod may see at one view what progress has been made, and what are the grounds of encouragement for future exertions.

Long before any effort was made to establish a Theological Seminary within our bounds, such an enterprise was often made the subject of free conversation at the meetings of our Ecclesiastical Judicatories; and in several instances resolutions were adopted, having a direct bearing upon the object. But to the Presbytery of South-Carolina belongs the honour of making the first decided and vigorous effort to carry this object into effect. They fixed upon a plan; engaged an Agent to solicit funds; and had made some progress towards the establishment of such an institution, when, at the meeting of Synod in 1824, they offered to commit the whole of what they had done into the hands of the Synod, with the single provision, that the location of the contemplated Seminary should be in Pendleton district. The Synod accepted the proposal under this limitation. But at that meeting nothing definite was done. In November, 1825, the Synod fixed upon a title for the contemplated institution, and called it "the Literary and Theological Seminary of the Synod," and adopted a Constitution having a reference to both these departments. At that meeting they also formed a Board, and appointed Committees of Trust, of Location, &c. and engaged a general Agent to obtain funds. At the meeting

of Synod in November 1824, no further progress had been made towards the establishment of the institution, except that the Agent had succeeded in obtaining a subscription to a considerable amount. The subscriptions and collections at that time did not vary much from thirty thousand dollars. But when the Synod met in 1827, difficulties were found to have arisen in the management of the pecuniary affairs of the Seminary. What money had been collected was loaned out, and on such security too, as was not regarded sufficiently ample. And the whole plan, after having undergone a full investigation, was considered too complicated and unwieldly to be managed by the Synod. The Literary department was therefore abandoned, and donors to the institution were authorized to reclaim the amounts which they had respectively given—And subscribers were exonerated from their pledges, unless they chose to renew them. The result was, that some who had given money with a reference to the Literary department, availed themselves of the opportunity for reclaiming it, and some subscribers also withdrew their pledges. Yet, the sums thus withdrawn, were more than counterbalanced by additional subscriptions from those who favored the change.

In November 1825, the Synod appointed the present Professor of Ecclesiastical History, Professor of Christian Theology, with liberty to remain at his residence, in Lexington, Ga. during the year.

The Presbytery of South-Carolina in 1829, at the request of the Synod generously released this body from their pledge to locate the institution in Pendleton district. The Board then felt at liberty to compare the advantages offered by different places; and by an unexpected unanimity, Columbia was then fixed upon as the permanent site of the institution. The Professor in the department of Christian Theology was, with his consent, transferred to the department of Ecclesiastical History, and the Rev. Dr. Waddel was chosen Professor of Christian Theology. But this appointment he subsequently declined. Early in 1830, the Professor of Ecclesiastical History, Dr. Goulding,

removed to Columbia, and though he gave instructions to several young men who had the Ministry in view, yet no class was formed until the meeting of Synod in 1830. At that meeting, the present Professor of Biblical Literature, Mr. Howe, was appointed a teacher in the institution, and the year following, he was elected Professor. Meanwhile, Col. Abraham Blanding, voluntarily engaged, with the assistance of others, to purchase a lot and buildings for the Seminary. This he effected in a few months, and presented to the Board free of any expense, the buildings and lot which the Seminary now occupies. These buildings, and this lot, were procured at an expense of $14,000, and for this generous donation, the Board feel under deep and lasting obligations.

Such is a brief sketch of the origin of this institution, and of its history, until it came into effective operation.

The attention of the Synod will now be called to its present condition.

And 1st. *The Professors.*—At present, there are but two Professors in the Seminary, the Rev. Tho. Goulding, D. D. Professor of Ecclesiastical History and Church Government; and the Rev. George Howe, Professor of Biblical Literature. Rev. Dr. McDowell, who was appointed last year to the Professorship of Christian Theology, having declined his appointment, the duties of that department have been divided for the year now closed, between the two other Professors. As considerable solicitude was manifested by the Professors and Students, for Dr. Porter, President of the Theological Seminary at Andover, who was in this State last winter and spring, to deliver in the Seminary, a course of Lectures on Sacred Rhetoric, the Executive Committee accordingly tendered to him a respectful invitation to deliver the aforesaid course of Lectures, which he did, to the great benefit and satisfaction of the Professors and Students.

2. *Students.*—By the Report of the Professors, the class which has just completed their course, consisted of five members, Messrs. J. M. W. Adams, F. P.

Goulding, Jas. L. Merrick, Wm. Moultrie Reid and Wm. Yates. Two others were regularly connected with the class, one of whom left last year, and the other, the Rev, J. L. Wilson, has recently been ordained, and has gone on a Foreign Mission under the direction of the American Board.

The Senior Class consists of six members, viz. Messrs. Axson, Egerton, Frazer, Legare, Peden and Petrie.

The Middle Class consists of nine members, viz. Messrs. Banks, Cassels, Douglas, Gray, Hooker, Mallard, Magruder, Montgomery and Pelton. And another class entitled the Junior, will doubtless be formed at, or before the commencement of another term.

The examination of the Students before the Board, has been highly creditable both to them and to their instructors. And the Board have been much gratified in receiving the most unqualified testimonials that the Students in the Seminary have uniformly manifested a becoming Christian deportment. There have been several other Students who have availed themselves of some of the advantages of the Seminary, but who were not regularly connected with the institution.

3. *The Charter.*—The Board have secured from the Legislature of this State, an act of incorporation, under which they can hold property to the amount of two hundred thousand dollars for twenty-one years. And if this privilege be used in a proper manner, it will doubtless be extended from period to period, covering also whatever sums may be necessary for the prosperity of the Institution.

4. *Funds.*—The Funds of the Seminary consist

1. Of Buildings and Lots presented thro' the agency of Col. Blanding,	$14,000 00
2. House and Lot purchased by the Board	1,000 00
3. The Nephew Scholarship,	2,500 00
4. Subscriptions and investments in Georgia towards the Georgia Professorship,	22,609 00
5. Subscriptions and investments in South Carolina, including the Scholarship of the Congregational and Presbyterian Female Education Society,	10,882 00

6. Subscriptions and collections by the agency of the Rev. Mr. Davis, in the Northern States,	15,584 75
Total,	$66,575 75

Some allowance should be made for subscriptions, payable as these are, in from three to five annual instalments; but it is believed that they are as good, if not better, than subscriptions usually are to such institutions. There cannot however, be any reasonable doubt but that with due exertions, ample provisions may be speedily made for completing the endowment of the three Professorships already undertaken.

5. *The Library.*—The Library of the Seminary consists of about 1900 volumes, most of which have been freely given by the friends of the Institution. Among these are many rare and valuable works. Besides these a member of the Board has collected about fifty volumes, which he intends sending on his return from Synod.

6. *The Constitution.*—The Board for two or three years past, have committed and recommitted to a committee the duty of preparing a Constitution to be submitted for their consideration and approval. This has, at last, been effected, and by a resolution of the Board, the following Constitution has been recommended to the Synod for their adoption.*

For the encouragement of the Synod to persevere in this noble enterprize, let every one of its members duly consider the progress which has already been made. We have now a Theological Institution which "has a local habitation and a name." We have buildings and lands, and investments, and subscriptions, amounting to between sixty and seventy thousand dollars. We have a charter by which this property can be held—We have a valuable library. There are besides two Professors, in which the Synod have reason to confide, who have been preparing twenty students to go forth into all the world as the Heralds of the everlasting Gospel, under the great commission of the Kings of Kings. Six or seven

* [See Appendix No. 2.]

have already gone, or are ready to go, Jehovah being their shield and their buckler, wherever in this wide world, He, in his holy providence, may send them. And what is more, this Institution is dear to the hearts of our Ministers, and Elders, and Churches; and they have strength enough under God, to sustain it. It will arise—It will prosper. And the spectacle, we venture to predict, will be exhibited here at no distant day, of an Institution with a hundred students, and ample accommodations for them all—and ample means of Instruction. This will be, if—if we, as a Synod and as individuals, are disposed to do our duty—to do it now—and to do it with a fixed purpose, and with unshaken confidence in the promises and providence of God.

In connexion with the prospects before us, the Board have some estimates to make of what is necessary to be done in order to sustain the Institution, and to render it prosperous.

To meet the engagements for this year, including $535 for the payment of the lot purchased by the Board, the balance on Professor's salaries, repairs, expences and salary of agent, &c. it will require not much short of $2500. To meet the expenses of the ensuing year, provided another professor should be elected, it will require an appropriation of about $5000. To the Synod it is known that but a small proportion of our funds are as yet invested in available stock—That the subscriptions are to be paid in instalments—and that it will require four or five years to complete the collections, and render them available. Meanwhile what is to be done? What but to appeal to our churches, and hold up this object before them, and ask them what they are willing to give to sustain this school of the Prophets. Spread it before the churches in its true light, and the silver and the gold will be forthcoming. God will open the hearts of his people, as he did of old, when they brought their offerings for the building of the Tabernacle in the wilderness.

In this Synod, there are about one hundred Ministers, and one hundred and fifty churches. Fifty dol-

lars each for the Ministers, or thirty three and 1-3 dollars from each of the churches, would be adequate of itself to defray the current annual expences, according to the foregoing estimate. And cannot this be done, and much more, if necessary? If an appeal were now made to the Synod, we have no doubt that pledges to the full amount would be given without a moment's hesitation.

The Board further Report, that the period for which the following individuals were elected, expires with the present meeting of Synod, viz:—*Ministers*, H. S. Pratt, R. W. James, J. B. Davis, S. K. Talmage, R. Means and M. Dickson. *Laymen*, G. T. Snowden, Joseph Cumming, David R. Evans and Robert Cunningham.

On motion Resolved, That so much of the Report of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary as relates to the election of Directors to supply the place of those whose term of service expires with this meeting, be now taken up; that nominations be called for to fill their place—and that the election be the order of the day for 10 o'clock on Monday. Nominations were accordingly made on calling the roll.

On motion Resolved, That it be the order of the day for 3 o'clock, this Afternoon, to consider the subject of Sabbath Schools.

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly, reported the following resolutions which were considered and adopted:

1. Resolved, That the Synod cordially concur with the General Assembly in setting apart the 1st Monday in January, 1834, as a day of special prayer for the conversion of the world; and earnestly recommend to the Ministers and Churches, within their bounds, the devout observance of the day aforesaid.

2. Resolved, That this Synod perceive with great pleasure, in the Minutes of the General Assembly, reference to a contemplated effort to supply within a definite period, the accessible reading population of the earth with the Holy Scriptures; and that if the work shall be undertaken, we pledge our prayers,

A letter from Rev, G. W. Boggs, Missionary to Bombay, was read, and on motion, was referred to the Southern Board of Foreign Missions.

On motion, Resolved, That when Synod adjourn, it adjourn to meet in the Presbyterian Church, Augusta, (Ga.) on the *first Thursday* in December next, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 6, which was read and referred to a special Committee, consisting of Rev. Drs. Palmer, Leland and Waddel.

On motion, Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the inhabitants of Columbia, for the hospitality with which they have received the Synod; and that the session of the Presbyterian Church be requested to communicate the same to them in any form which they may select.

The Committee to whom Overture No. 5 was referred, which is as follows:—"Are members of the Church, who take offence at their Pastor, and abstain on this account from the word and ordinances in their own Church, are they on account of their thus abstaining, proper subjects of Church discipline? and is it expedient in this country, and in the present state of the Presbyterian Church, to deal with such members for their irregularity, provided nothing more scandalous be chargeable against them?" submitted the following Report, which was adopted, viz: "That the question is answered in our form of Church Government, chap. 9. section 6 and 7th; and that expediency ought not to prevent the exercise of discipline."

The Committee appointed to prepare a Pastoral Letter to the Churches under the cate of this Synod, reported, That they have not, and probably will not, have time to perform the duty assigned them. Whereupon that Committee was discharged, and another Committee consisting of Dr. Leland, Mr. Smith and Mr. Gildersleeve, were appointed to draft the letter, and publish it without submitting it to Synod.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures, reported an Appeal in behalf of John B. Simpson and wife, from the decision of the South-Carolina Presbytery in 1824,

by which decision the appellants had been excluded from the communion of the Presbyterian Church.

After reading the documents, and hearing statements from members of the Presbytery, all of whom were favorable to the restoration of the appellants to Church privileges, the appeal was sustained, and Mr. John B. Simpson and wife were restored to the communion of the Church.

The Committee to whom Overture No. 4 was referred, reported the following Resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Presbytery of Hopewell be divided according to the Resolution of that Presbytery in April last; and that the part of the Presbytery now called Hopewell, on the west side of the Ochmulgee River, including also the counties of Newton, Walton and Gwinnett, be denominated the Presbytery of Good Hope; to meet in McDonough on the Thursday before the fourth Sabbath of March next, at 11 o'clock, A. M.; to be opened by a Sermon by the Rev. Mr. Holt, or in case of his absence, by the senior member present, who is to preside until another Moderator be chosen. And whereas the Moderator of Hopewell Presbytery will, by this decision, be included in the Good Hope Presbytery, therefore Resolved, That the Rev. Mr. Talmage be appointed Moderator of Hopewell Presbytery, for its next stated sessions, or in case of his absence, the senior member present.

Synod, after imploring the Divine blessing, proceeded to the election of a Professor of Christian Theology in the Seminary of this Synod. Rev. Mr. Smith and Mr. N. A. Pratt, were appointed a Committee to receive and count the votes. This Committee having retired for a few minutes, returned, and reported, That Dr. Leland was elected to that office.

On motion, Resolved, That his salary be fixed at $1500 per annum.

The Rev. Samuel S. Davis and Mr. Dickson, were appointed a Committee to inform Dr. Leland of his election, and receive his answer.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Narrative of the state of Religion, reported. The Report having been read, On motion, Ordered, That it be adopted, and published with the minutes of this Synod;

300 copies of which were ordered to be printed, and Messrs. Mitchell and Gildersleeve were appointed to superintend the publication of the same.

NARRATIVE.

There is always something peculiarly impressive and interesting in retrospective views, especially when those views open to the mind, fields where we have labored and wept, sown in tears and waited with expectation—fields on which vegetation has quickened under our hand, fruits have ripened, and the harvest has been gathered. Transfer this figure to the Church, to the trials of the faithful Minister, to the close and the harvest of his labors when he rests and recounts his victories, and how deeply, how triumphantly can we feel it. Such is the anniversary meeting of the servants of Christ—such our holy convocation now. While three of our beloved brethren, Rev. John McEwen, of Harmony Presbytery, and Rev. Alexander Kirkpatrick, of the Presbytery of South-Carolina, and Rev. A. Benedict, of the Presbytery of Georgia, have been called by death from their fields of labor to their rewards on high, we may experience a foretaste and earnest of their and our final joys in this sweet fellowship and communion here.

The Synod of South-Carolina and Georgia, in presenting its annual narrative of the state of religion, has few of those distinguished triumphs of grace to record, which gave such deep interest to its last Report. Yet, we still dwell with gratitude and adoring praise on the songs to which those new born voices were then attuned in the day of God's power, and we may still find a rich source of consolation and hope in the prospective views of the influence, strength and glory of our Church, furnished by the present state of religion among its members. *The state of religion in the Church*, more than any numerical force, presents the true standard of its prosperity and prospects. This, it is our present object briefly to present.

Its Internal order and Harmony.

We believe there is a firm attachment to the doctrines and discipline of our Church among its mem-

bers, and that this attachment is more than formerly based on an intelligent understanding of those doctrines and that discipline. Some of our Clergy have not only taught and explained publicly those doctrines and that discipline, but have wisely placed our printed book, which embodies them, in the hands of their members, and thus contributed greatly to make them efficient, by making them intelligent, Christians. Next after the Bible, should be studied our Confession of Faith, which is but a summary of its doctrines; and our Book of Discipline, which is the constitutional form, by which our Church is embodied and governed. We commend this little volume to the careful perusal of all the members of our Church. Too much apathy and neglect prevail on this subject. The consequence is—our Church is not sufficiently intelligent on its own distinctive character, comparative privileges and excellence—its precious doctrines fail of their full effect to comfort, strengthen and sanctify, its order is deranged, and its discipline relaxed and enfeebled. The remedies are in our own hands, and the responsibilities rest with principal weight on the Ministers.

That harmony, which has heretofore distinguished our Zion, we are happy to say, is still preserved. Amid conflicts and trials of peculiar difficulty, it is certainly cause of gratitude and praise that the interests of the Church have continued to exert so paramount an influence over its members, and harmony within, and a spirit of love have been so generally maintained.

Revivals of Religion.

Although our Churches have been less revived during the last, than on the preceeding year, we have not been without evidences that God is amongst us, and that He is able and mighty to save. These, we are bound to record to the glory of His grace. In *Charleston Union Presbytery*, protracted meetings have been blessed to the congregations of Willtown and Walterborough. In one of the congregations, several members of a female Bible Class have become

hopeful subjects of grace, and Sabbath School instructions have been blessed in other instances. In *Harmony Presbytery*, there has been a general attention to the means of grace, and good order in most of the Churches, but with few revivals and a few additions to the communion. The annual report from *Bethel Presbytery* complains of a state of great coldness and declension in the life of religion, and a destitution of the preached word, yet several of their Churches have been blessed with seasons of revival, and considerable additions made to their members, particularly *Bethesda*, *Bethel*, *Fishing Creek*, *Waxhaw*, *Catholic* and *Cane Creek*. The *South Carolina Presbytery*, report, that in Laurens district, one new Church has been organized, consisting of 72 members, and 28 have been added to another Church. In Anderson district, some Churches exhibit promising appearances, and to others some additions have been made. In Abbeville, there has been good attention to preaching, and additions to several of the Churches. *Georgia* and *Hopewell Presbyteries* are blessed with a favorable state of religion in their Churches without any special revival. In Tallahassee, Florida, a new Church has been organized within the last year, and placed under the care of Georgia Presbytery. This Church has enjoyed an interesting revival of religion, and been greatly strengthened.

Foreign Missions.

The Monthly Concert of Prayer, although totally neglected by a few of our Churches, has been regularly observed by many. For Foreign Missions something has been done, but little, however, compared with what we owe to the subject. The attention excited to it by two of our brethren who recently left us to preach the gospel to the heathen, has been awakened anew the present year by another beloved brother, the Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, who has just finished his studies at our Theological Seminary, and is now on his way to carry the glad news of salvation to the heathen abroad. The creation of the *Southern Board*

of Missions just completed by an act of this Synod, may be regarded as a physical organization competent to bring into action the energies of *our Church.* We look to God to breathe upon us the spirit of Missions, which is the spirit of life, and this strong portion of the Church will be brought out to the help of the Lord against the mighty. We trust and believe the next report of Synod will have something in this department to record of its character and efficient action.

Education Society.

The education of pious young men for the Gospel Ministry, a cause so intimately connected with the prosperity of our Theological Seminary, and the supply of our vacant Churches, has received some attention. But efforts on this subject have been without system, and much more limited than the cause demands. The Rev. S. S. Davis, has recently undertaken an agency for the South, to organize our whole Church by constituting each Presbytery auxiliary to the "*Assembly's Board of Education,*" and thus to concentrate our energies on this subject. His office at Augusta, is at a central point, and under his efficient agency we may expect to find the resources of our Churches, and the hearts of our pious youth drawn effectually to a co-operation in the well laid plans of this institution.

Theological Seminary.

This child of our labours, prayers and hopes has attained, even in its infancy, a strength and character beyond its years. The first class, consisting of six members, has now finished its course, and these young men have already been presented with great acceptance to the Churches, as preachers of the Gospel. One of them has already gone to the heathen, and another has devoted himself to the same service. The standard of piety, and spirit of self-denial manifested by the present members of our Seminary, promise great usefulness in their personal labors to the Church, and are auspicious in their probable bearing

on the future character of the institution. May the simplicity and economy of their habits of living, their application to study, their burning zeal for the salvation of souls, the Missionary spirit they breathe, be sustained in this Seminary, until the original commission to the Gospel Ministry shall be fully executed: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." We again commend this school of the prophets to the prayers and liberal support of our Churches. Every stream that flows into it from the liberal hand of pecuniary bounty, will return upon our land in the broad river of life to refresh and to save our children.

Domestic Missionary Society.

This Society, the necessary coadjutor of our Education Society and Theological Seminary, in furnishing a complete Ministry to our Churches, has scarcely an existence but in name, and of course the cause has gained but very partial attention. The poor Churches are crying for help with a voice that draws tears wherever there is a heart to feel for the desolations of Zion. Our rich Churches, it is believed, are willing to help them, but the necessary agencies are absent. We look with hope and expectation to the execution of the plan laid in the "*Assembly's Board of Missions*" to bring relief to our famishing Churches, and we will welcome the efforts of their Secretary to bring our Church into the contemplated organization, and our reasources to bear on this most important and affecting object of Christian benevolence.

Bible Cause.

This noble cause, which contemplates the supply of the entire reading population of the world with the word of life, has shared in the contributions of many of our Churches. It must dwell with undying interest on the hearts of all who have felt the word of this salvation "calling them out of darkness into marvellous light, and from the power of sin and satan unto God." Those who have truly known its "power to save," can never be satisfied while it is withheld from any portion of our dying world.

Tract Cause.

Little is said on this subject in our Presbyterial reports. It is known, however, to have excited a degree of attention and aid in almost every section of our church. The utility of this mode of instruction has been fully tested and acknowledged. An Agent of the American Tract Society, the Rev. Mr. Woodbridge, has been before this Synod, and has commended his object to the favorable attention and co-operation of our churches. We trust his efforts will be crowned with success, and that we shall not only have the opportunity to do good to ourselves, but be found to bear an honorable part in the great work now undertaken for foreign distribution.

Sunday Schools.

These are subjects of special report from the *Charleston Union*, *Bethel*, *Harmony*, and *South Carolina Presbyteries.* They have in general received some attention, and in many Churches, have been made an object of special regard. Many of our Churches have generally furnished Teachers, Books, and all the necessary means of conducting schools in neighborhoods contiguous to themselves, and in this way many lay-members of our churches have become strong and efficient auxiliaries to the ministry, and contributed greatly, and directly to the salvation of souls. The "*effort for the South*" is cordially responded to, and we only need perseverance commensurate with our promptness to engage in the enterprise to bring forward a generation to follow us, who shall be enlightened in the truth, and zealous of God's praise.

Temperance Cause.

This cause is reported from the *Charleston Union*, *South Carolina*, and *Harmony Presbyteries* as decidedly gaining ground. We have evidence that it rests with increasing weight on the consciences of Christians, and in its extended and extending, its salutary and saving influence, excites the admiration of the world at large, and the general approbation of good men. It has our cordial good wishes. We believe its

is destined to advance, until *total abstinence* shall be the recieved doctrine, not only of every member of every church, but of every good citizen—and Alcohol, in all its modifications, shall be labelled and carefully confined, in vials to the medicine chest of every family, subjected to the same restricted use with opium, calomel or arsenic.

Religious Instruction of our Coloured Population.

This Synod continue to feel the same responsibilities and desires on this subject which they have repeatedly expressed. They rejoice to find that increasing attention is paid to it on the part of many who are largely interested as owners in this class of our population, and that there is an increasing disposition, on their part to receive and invite instruction for these heathen in our own land. Under the restrictions and limitations of the laws, we hope all ministers will delight to impart to them the blessings of the Gospel and that Christian Masters will feel that in these possessions, they have not only the responsibilities of property—but that "souls are their charge."

Among the favorable indications in the State of religion, we should do injustice to our feelings, and be truly ungrateful should we neglect to record the divine goodness manifested to the Synod at its present meeting. It has been truly a season of reviving, of quickening and Christian communion. Under its influence we trust and believe our Churches will receive a new impulse through their ministers in every benevolent and holy enterprise. Can we forget the goodness and the grace of God now manifested? We have met as brethren. We have felt the warm hand of friendship, expressing the fellowship of more than a brothers love. Envy and jealousy have been banished—strife has ceased, ere it was matured—dissentions have not been known—the Lord has been with us, and "the mountains have flowed down at his presence." While "there be many that say, who will show us any good," taught by a happy experience, may our prayers ever be—"Lord, lift thou upon us the light of thy countenance."

Our Church, then, in all our prospective views of its destinies, furnishes ground for confident expectation of an onward and upward course. Never have we possessed ground so elevated, and a foundation so broad as at the present moment. With the prayer, the union, the brotherly love, the Christian feeling and enterprize by which this meeting has been characterized, we may well be satisfied to do our own work, and let our enemies alone, except to pity and to pray for them."

The Committee appointed to notify the Rev. Dr. Leland of his election as a Professor in the Theological Seminary, and receive his answer, reported, That they had had an interview with Dr. Leland, that he was then present, and would answer in person—Whereupon, Dr. Leland arose, and said in effect, that he felt incompetent to the task; but as his brethren had manifested a confidence in him which he had not at all anticipated, he felt truly grateful for this expression of their favor, and asked the indulgence of the Synod for a few days, when he would communicate to the Board his decision.

The Rev. S. S. Davis, who has been appointed permanent Agent of the General Assembly's Board of Education for the State of South-Carolina and Georgia, made a brief statement of the operations and claims of the Assembly's Board—Whereupon, it was Resolved, That this Synod rejoice in the extended and increased operations of the Assembly's Board of Education.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Churches under our care, to render the Agent of the Assembly's Board every facility in their power in the prosecution of this benevolent enterprise.

On motion, also Resolved, That the new Presbytery of Good Hope be directed to pay to the Stated Clerk of this Synod, *five dollars* annually, as their proportion of his salary.

The Committee to whom was referred a letter from the session of the Church in Columbia, requesting the advice or assistance of Synod, in procuring them a Pastor, reported, That they can meet the views of

Half-past 3 *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Board met, when the Students of the Senior and Middle Classes were examined on the Exegesis of the Greek and Hebrew Scriptures, and the Senior Class on Campbell's Rhetoric. The Board again had a recess to meet at a quarter before 7 o'clock, P. M.

A quarter before 7 *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Board met—Present as above, with the addition of Capt. Robert Cunningham, Vice-President, whose excuse for not coming earlier was sustained.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read.

Rev. Dr. McDowall having, by letter, tendered his resignation as Secretary of the Board, his resignation was, on motion, accepted, and Mr. Gildersleeve was unanimously elected by ballot to fill the office.

The Executive Committee presented their Report in part, which, on motion, was recommitted to the same Committtee, with instructions to correct and complete it, and report in full.

The Committee appointed to attend the Spring Examination of the Students of the Seminary, reported, That they were in readiness to attend to the duties assigned them ; but in consequence of the previous dispersion of the students, no examination took place.

The Report was accepted ; Whereupon it was unanimously Resolved, That the Board disapprove of the dispersion of the Students in term time ; and that the Professors be furnished with a copy of this resolution.

The Committee on the Constitution presented as their Report a draft of a Constitution, which was read, and after some discussion, the further consideration of the subject was deferred for the present.

The Board then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, at a quarter before 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday Morning, a quarter before 9 o'clock.

The Board met, and was constituted with prayer. Present as on last evening, with the addition of Rev. Moses Waddel, D. D., Samuel J. Cassels, J. B. Davies, J. K. Douglas, Esq.

The examination of the Students was resumed, when thn Middle Class was examined on didactic Theology and Church History to the 14th Century, and the Senior Class on Church History from the 14th to the 19th Century—and several members of the Junior Class read Dissertations on Biblical History.

The Board then had a recess until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Wednesday, 3 o'clock. P. M.

The Board met—Present as in the morning. The Junior Class read Dissertations on Biblical History. Essays were also read by the Students of the Middle Class.

The Board then had a recess to meet in the Lecture Room of the Presbyterian Church, at half-past 6 o'clock this evening.

Wednesday Evening, half-past 6 o'clock.

The Board met in the Lecture Room of the Presbyterian Church, where the Students of the Senior Class, viz. J. M. N. Adams, F. R. Goulding, Wm. Moultrie Reid and Jas. L. Merrick, who had completed their Theological course, delivered in the presence of the Board and a respectable audience, Dissertations upon subjects which had been previously assigned them by the Professors.

The Committee appointed to obtain from the Legislature of this State an Act of Incorporation, present their Report, which was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:—"That the Legislature of the State of South-Carolina did, on the 20th day of December

1832, pass an act, entitled "An Act to incorporate certain Societies," in which "the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South-Carolina and Georgia," is declared to be a body corporate and politic—that the said Board is also declared by the act aforesaid to have succession of officers and members, to be chosen according to their own by-laws; and shall have power to make by-laws, not repugnant to the laws of the land—to have, keep and use a common seal, and the same to alter at will—to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any Court of this State, and to have and enjoy every right incident to incorporation—That the Board is empowered to retain, hold, possess, and enjoy all such property as they may now be possessed of, or entitled to, or which shall hereafter be given, bequeathed to, or in any manner acquired by them; and to sell, alien, or in any way transfer the same, or any part thereof: Provided the amount so held, shall not exceed $200,000—And finally, that the Act of Incorporation is declared to be a public act, and to continue in force for twenty-one years."

On motion, Resolved, That the aforesaid Act of Incorporation, (to be found in Acts and Resolutions of the General Assembly of South-Carolina for 1832, pp. 44–48,) be accepted.

On motion, Resolved, That the time and place for preaching the Annual Sermon before the Board, Professors and Students, be fixed for to-morrow night, at half-past 6 o'clock, in the Presbyterian Church.

The Treasurer, Wm. Law, Esq. presented his Report, which was read, and referred to a Committee of Audits, consisting of Messrs. Jas. K. Douglas, Chs. McIntire and Robert Cunningham.

The Bonrd then adjournsd to meet in the Theological Seminary, to-morrow morning, at half-past 8 o'clock.

Concluded witb prayer.

Thursday Morning, half-past 8 o'clock.

The Board met; and in the absence of the President and Vice-President, Dr. Leland was called to

the Chair. Constituted with prayer. Present as above, together with the Rev. H. S. Pratt.

The Executive Committee presented their Report in full, which was read, accepted and adopted, and is as follows:

"The Executive Committee present as the Report of their proceedings during the past year, that at a meeting held in the Depository, Charleston, on the 19th December, 1832, (the members being all present) a communication was laid before the Committee from the Rev. Dr. McDowell, Professor elect in the Theological Seminary of the Synod, in which he declined accepting the appointment. This communication was, on motion, received and ordered to be kept on the files of the Committee.

"The Executive Committee again met on the 11th February, 1833, in the Depository, Charleston, when all the members were present with the exception of the President, Dr. Palmer. The Rev. S. S. Davis, a member of the Board, but not of the Committee, being present, was invited to participate in the deliberation of the Committee.

"The object of the meeting was, to provide for the wants of the Seminary, both in respect to instruction and funds. As the professor elect had declined accepting his appointment, it seemed important to the Committee, that provision should be made immediately, to supply as far as possible the place which it was designed that he should fill as Professor and General Agent.

"Mr. Davis informed the Committee, that he had recently accepted the appointment of permanent Agent of the General Assembly's Board of Education for the State of South-Carolina and Georgia. But from a conviction of the important instrumentality of the Theological Seminary of the Synod, to the accomplishment of those objects in this section of the Church, which the Assembly's Board of Education have in view, and from a knowledge of the present embarrassed state of the funds of the Seminary, he had reserved the right of acting as Agent for the Seminary, should his services be called for by the Board or Executive Committee.

" Whereupon it was resolved by the Committee, that Mr. Davis be appointed special Agent of the Theological Seminary, and that he be permitted to exercise his agency at discretion until the next meeting of the Board, and that his compensation be fixed at the rate of $500 a year.

" The Committee having understood that the Rev. Dr. Porter, President of the Theological Seminary of Andover, was in the State, and that he would probably continue in the South for some time, It was Resolved, 1st. That he be requested, if consisent with his health and other engagements, to deliver a course of Lectures on Sacred Rhetoric to the Students of the Theological Seminary—And that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Professors at Columbia, and that they be requested to open the way for carrying it into effect.

" Resolved 2dly, That the Committee pledge themselves to defray the expenses of Dr. Porter in going to Columbia, and while there, and to furnish whatever further compensation may be deemed proper.

The President announced the appointment of the following Committees :

On the Library, Messrs. Talmage, Cassels and Davis.

On the Buildings, Messrs. Snowden, Douglas and Cunningham.

On Ways and Means, Messrs. Means, White, Davis and McIntire.

On Laws and Regulations, Dr. Church, Messrs. James, Talmage, and Pratt.

On Audits, Messrs. Douglas, McIntire and Cunningham.

The Report of the Librarian was received and read, and referred to the Committee on the Library.

A Report was received and read from Mr. Thomas Cumming, who had been requested by Dr. McDowell to act as receiving agent of monies paid in, on the Georgia professorship, and referred to the Committee of Audits.

The Rev. Dr. McDowell being absent, It was Resolved, That all the papers connected with his agency

for the Theological Seminary, be referred to a Special Committee, consisting of S. S. Davis, Elipha White, and S. J. Cassels, with instructions to report as early as practicable.

A joint Report from the Professors of the Seminary was received, read and accepted, and on motion, was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Dr. Leland, J. B. Davies and Mr. James.

The Committee on Audits presented their Report, which was read and referred back to them, with instructions to amend it in a specified particular.

Rev. S. S. Davis, the agent appointed by the Executive Committee, presented his Report, which was read, and referred back to him for the purpose of condensation, that it may be enrolled in our Record.

The Board then adjourned to meet at the call of the President.

After the adjournment, the Board attended and heard an appropriate Sermon from the Rev. S. S. Davis, who was appointed last year to preach before the Directors, Professors and Students.

Friday Afternoon, 5 o'clock.

The Board met at the call of the President, and was constituted with prayer. Present as above, with the addition of Alonzo Church, D. D

Mr. Davis submitted a condensed Report of his agency, which is as follows:—"That he commenced his agency on the first of March last, and continued it to the present date. The results of which are as follows:—Obtained on subscriptions, payable in five annual instalments.

In Savannah,	$2,670
Liberty county,	2,350
Darien,	2,200
Wayne and Glynn cos.	1,750
St. Mary's,	1,900

Making the sum of $10,870 for the Presbytery of Georgia.

Burke county,	2,195
Augusta,	2,984
Subscription obtained by Dr. McDowell, in the bounds of Hopewell Pres'y.	6,760
Making an amount for the Hopewell Presbytery of	$11,939

The whole subscription obtained toward the endowment of the Georgia Professorship, is $22,809.

On this subscription, $2,405 have been paid, and in part invested.

The aggregate subscription obtained for the benefit of the Seminary in the Northern States is $15,584 75 cents, to be paid in three annual instalments. Of this sum more than $2,000 have been received."

This Report was received, and it was referred to a Committee consisting of Dr. Leland, Mr. Pratt and Mr. Snowden, to report on the subject of compensation for the services and expenses of the Agent.

The Committee of Ways and Means presented their Report, which was read and accepted. From their Report it appears that the estimate of funds and subscriptions is as follows:

In Georgia, including the Nephew Scholarship,	$25,109 00
In South-Carolina,	10,882 00
Subscriptions obtained by Mr. Davis in Northern States,	15,584 75
	$51,575 75

The Committee on Audits presented their Report on the Treasurer's Account, which was read and accepted. From which it appears that the Treasurer's Account is found to be correct, leaving a balance in his hands of $2 and 6 cents, as stated in the account. They also find that there has been placed to the credit of the general fund, $60 and 19 cents, which

should have been credited to the Charleston Union Presbytery.

Mr. Davis informed the Board, that he had authorized the money on the Subscriptions in the Northern States, to be deposited to his credit in the Merchants' Bank, New-York.

Whereupon Resolved, That Mr. Davis be directed to draw the funds which are, or which may be deposited to his credit on account of the Theological Seminary, and transmit the same to the investing Committee in Charleston.

Rev. Mr. White presented a Report of his Agency, in which he states that he has obtained no new subscription to the sum of $5715, reported last year, —that of the several instalments on this subscription, he has received $410, and transmitted the same to the investing Committee—that this sum, added to that of $2,371 97 cents, previously collected, amounts to $2,780 97 cents, belonging to the permanent fund of the Charleston Union Professorship. This Report was received, read and accepted.

The Building Committee presented their Report, in which they specified certain alterations and repairs as necessary for the security of the buildings, and the productiveness of the Lot.

Whereupon Resolved, That G. T. Snowden, Col. Blanding, and Wm. Law, be requested to have the specified repairs and alterations made, and that the Treasurer be authorized to pay their bill for the same out of any monies not otherwise appropriated.

Rev. E. White was re-appointed Agent in the Charleston Union Presbytery. Rev. S. S. Davis was re-appointed Agent for completing the Georgia Professorship, and Rev. Horace S. Pratt was appointed Agent to collect the Subscriptions in the Northern States, and to obtain additional funds and subscriptions at his own discretion.

The Constitution, as reported by the Committee, was then taken up, and after having been read and discussed article by article, and undergone sundry amendments, was approved.

It was then Resolved, That the Constitution as amended, be recommended to the Synod for their adoption.

The Board then had a recess to meet at the call of the President.

Saturday Morning, 9 o'clock.

The Board met at the call of the President. Present as above.

The Secretary submitted to the consideration of the Board, a draft of a report to be presented to the Synod, which was adopted, and ordered to be presented to the Synod as their Report in part.

The Board then had a recess to meet at the call of the President.

Saturday Evening, 7 o'clock.

The Board met at the call of the President. Present as above.

The President stated to the Board, that the Constitution which was approved last evening, and was ordered to be recommended to the Synod for their adoption, had been adopted by that body, and was, therefore, our future rule of action.

The Committee appointed to report on the subject of compensation for the services and expenses of the Agent, presented their Report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

Resolved 1st, That this Board highly appreciate the unwearied and self-sacrificing labors of their Agent in the collection of funds for the establishment of Professorships in the Theological Seminary.

Resolved 2d, That the Agent be remunerated for all his expenses, according to the estimate given in his report, viz. $800.

Resolved 3d, That the sum of $500 be paid to the Agent for his salary the last year, according to the

pledge of the Executive Committee, and that an order be given him on the Treasurer for this amount.

Resolved 4th, That the thanks of this Board be given to the Rev. Wm. Chester and Mr. C. Van Rensselaer, for their services, rendered in conjunction with the Agent in the prosecution of his work.

The Committee to whom was referred the papers of Dr. McDowell, in relation to his Agency, performed for the Seminary in Georgia, reported, that they found a full statement of the Subscriptions which he obtained in Georgia—and that Thomas Cumming and Wm. Dearing, Esq's. were requested by him to act as receiving Agents of the Subscriptions. The Committee further recommended, that these papers be committed to Mr. Davis, the present Agent appointed for the State of Georgia.

This Report was read and adopted.

On motion, Resolved, That the Board proceed to the appointment of two investing Committees, one for the State of South-Carolina, and the other for the State of Georgia.

Whereupon, Messrs. Thomas Legare, Charles McIntire and James Adger, were appointed investing Committee for South-Carolina.

And Messrs. Thomas Cumming, Robert Campbell and Wm. Dearing, were appointed investing Committee for the State of Georgia.

On motion, Resolved, That the investing Committee for the State of Georgia, be authorized to invest all monies collected in that State for the permanent fund.

Resolved, That the investing Committee for South Carolina, be directed to invest all other monies which may be received for the permanent fund, until the next meeting of the Board.

It was stated by the Rev. S. S. Davis, that in the month of March last, he transmitted to Mr. Law, the Treasurer, $150, which had been collected in the State of Georgia, and which was placed by our Treasurer to the credit of the Contingent fund. Whereupon it was Resolved, That as Mr. Davis is to be continued as an Agent for the State of Georgia, he be

authorized to retain out of any monies which he may there collect for the Contingent fund, the sum of $150, to replace the amount thus taken from the permanent fund for that State.

Resolved, That our Treasurer be instructed to credit all monies hereafter received from the Nephew Scholarship, to that particular account, and that the Professors be authorized to appropriate that fund to the support of any necessitous student or students which they may consider deserving, provided that those who have the direction of said scholarship, should not select or recommend any student to be supported out of that fund.

The Committee on the Library presented their Report, which was recommitted to the same Committee, with instructions to amend it, and report again.

After a free conversation upon the state of the Seminary, it was resolved, That it is expedient for the Board at this meeting, to recommend to the Synod to elect a Professor of Christian Theology.

The Committee on the Professor's Report, recommended that an alphabetical list of the Students of the Seminary be made out, and entered upon the minutes.

Adjourned to meet at the call of the President.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday Morning, Dec. 9th, 11 o'clock.

The Board met at the call of the President, and was opened with prayer. Present as above.

The subject of a Professor of Christian Theology was again taken up, when it was proposed and agreed to, that in order to ascertain the feelings of the Board respecting the individual to be recommended to that office, a silent vote should be taken by ballot, the final result of which was, after invoking the divine direction, that by an almost unanimous vote, it was agreed to recommend A. W. Leland, D. D., for that Professorship.

Resolved, That this Minute be reported to the Synod.

The Board had a recess to meet at the call of the President.

Tuesday Morning, 9 *o'clock.*

The Board met.

The President announced to the Board, that the Synod, yesterday, elected the following Directors of the Synod for three years, viz:—*Ministers*—H. S. Pratt, R. W. James, J. B. Davies, S. K. Talmage, Robert Means, and Charles Colcock Jones. *Laymen*—G. T. Snowden, Joseph Cumming, Robert Cunningham, and Thomas R. Vardell.

J. B. Davies, H. S. Pratt, and T. R. Vardell, the newly elected Directors, being present, took their seats as members of the Board.

A letter was received from Dr. Charles West, inquiring whether the Board were willing that the Nephew Scholarship should remain invested as formerly.

The security being regarded as sufficiently ample, Mr. Davis was directed by the Board to inform Dr. West, that no change was contemplated in the investment of the Nephew Scholarship, and that Mr. Joseph Cumming of Savannah, is authorized to receive the interest.

An election for Officers of the Board for the ensuing years then took place, the result of which was as follows:

B. M. Palmer, D. D., *President.*
Robert Cunningham, *Vice-President.*
William Law, Esq. *Treasurer.*
B. Gildersleeve, *Secretary.*

The Committee on the Library presented their Report, which was read and adopted, and is as follows:—"That they find the Books in a good condition, and the regulations relating to the Library carefully observed. In relation to the Ancrum Library mentioned in the Librarian's Report, they would re-

commend that the Books be retained on the conditions stated by Col. Lang, the Executor of the Ancrum Estate. [See Librarian's Report.] That the account submitted by Dr. Goulding, for the purchase of several copies of Prideaux's Connections, be assumed by this Board, and our Professors instructed to contract in future no pecuniary obligations, on account of the Board, without the authority of the Board. They further recommend, that the Secretary of this Synod be directed duly to acknowledge the courtesy of the Trustees of the South-Carolina College, in offering to our Professors the use of the Library."

Ordered, That in compliance with the above Report, Dr. Goulding be authorized to draw upon the Treasurer for the sum of $37 50 cents, and that the Secretary be instructed to furnish Dr. Goulding with a copy of the above Report.

Mr. White and Mr. Pratt were appointed a Committee to communicate to the Professors the disposal which was made by the Board, last year, of the Seminary's buildings.

The Board had a recess to meet at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

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3 o'clock, P. M.

The Board met.

Dr. Palmer, Dr. Leland, Mr. Gildersleeve, Mr. White, Mr. Thomas Legare, Mr. Charles McIntire, and Mr. Vardell, were appointed an Executive Committee for the current year, with full powers to act in all matters for the Seminary that may require attention during the recess of the Board—And the same Committee are required to report their proceedings to the Board at the next meeting.

Resolved, That the sum of $5,000 be appropriated for the contingent expenses of the coming year.

Rev. George Howe was re-appointed Librarian for the ensuing year.

Messrs. Talmage, James, Means, Snowden and Douglas, were appointed a Committee to attend the next Spring Examination.

Resolved, That for the next year there be two vacations—the first to commence on the last Thursday of March, and to continue six weeks—and the second to commence on Wednesday preceding the first Thursday in December, and to continue four weeks, —and that the two days preceding each vacation, be devoted to the examination of the Students.

Resolved, That when the Board do adjourn, it adjourn to meet in the Seminary at Columbia, on the Monday preceding the first Thursday of December next, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Mr. White was appointed to preach the Annual Sermon before the Board, Professors and Students at the next meeting of Synod, and H. S. Pratt his alternate.

Resolved, That Dr. Leland and Mr. Gildersleeve be a Committee of revision and publication, and that these minutes be published in conjunction with the minutes of the Synod.

The Examining Committee for the Fall—Dr. Palmer, Mr. J. B. Davies, Mr. White, Mr. McIntire, Mr. Snowden.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Buildings be authorized to rent whatever out-buildings of the Seminary may not be needed.

It was reported to the Board, that the Synod did last evening confirm their nomination of a third Professor, and elected the Rev. A. W. Leland, D. D., Professor of Christian Theology in the Seminary, and that they have referred it to the Board to make whatever arrangements may be necessary, in case this appointment should be accepted.

The Board then adjourned.

APPENDIX NO. II.

CONSTITUTION

OF

THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

OF

The Synod of South-Carolina and Georgia.

SECTION I.

Name and design of the Seminary.

Aware of the superior claims of the present age to an enlightened ministry, the Synod of South-Carolina and Georgia, have resolved to establish an Institution of sacred learning, to be called "*The Theological Seminary of the Synod of South-Carolina and Georgia.*" The design of this institution is, and ever shall be, to educate young men for the Gospel Ministry, who shall believe, love and preach the doctrines of the Bible, as set forth in the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

SECTION II.

Power of Synod.

ARTICLE I. The Synod having originated the Institution, it shall be the source of all its powers, and have a general control of all its concerns.

ART. II. The Synod shall elect a Board of Directors, consisting of eighteen Ministers and twelve Laymen, who shall inspect and manage the Seminary. One-third of the Board, viz. six ministers and four laymen, shall be elected annually, who shall hold

their office three years. And if any vacancy or vacancies, by death, resignation or otherwise, occur in the Board, the Synod may annually elect others to fill them.

ART. III. The Synod shall appoint the Professors of the Seminary, and fix their salaries. In case, however, a vacancy should occur during the recess of Synod, or the interests of the institution should require an assistant instructor, the Board shall have power to make such arrangements as they may deem expedient, until the next meeting of the Synod.

ART. IV. The Synod shall try and decide the case of every Professor impeached or reported by the Board, for immorality, error, unfaithfulness, or incompetency; and from their decision there shall be no appeal.

ART. V. The Synod may alter or amend the Constitution, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, at any regular meeting; such alteration or amendment having been proposed at a previous meeting of the Synod, or recommended by the Board of Directors.

SECTION III.

Mode of Election.

ART. I. In the election of Directors of the Theological Seminary, the Clerk shall call the roll, and the members of Synod severally nominate any member they choose, not exceeding the whole number to be elected: The names of the persons thus nominated shall be read, and then placed in some public situation; from which nomination, on the following day, the requisite number of Directors shall be elected by ballot.

ART, II. The votes for Directors shall be received and counted by a Committee of two, who shall report to Synod the number of votes for those who have a plurality, and they shall be declared duly elected: should not the whole number, however, be elected, and any two or more candidates have an equal number of votes, the Synod shall elect from the nomination the Directors necessary to complete the Board;

and when the requisite number shall have been elected, the Moderator shall announce to Synod the names of those thus elected.

Art. III. In the election of a Professor, the Synod having fixed, by vote, the time of said election, shall have a season of special prayer for direction in the choice. At the time specified, the election shall be made by ballot; and the votes received and counted by a Committee of two, who shall report a statement of the same to the Moderator; and the person or candidate having a majority of all the votes given, shall be declared duly elected.

SECTION IV.

Board of Directors.

Art. I. The Board of Directors shall annually meet at the Seminary, and oftener if they deem it necessary. Seven members shall constitute a quorum for doing business, provided four of them be Ministers of the Gospel.

Art. II. The Board of Directors shall choose a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer; also, two Committees of Investment, (one in South-Carolina, and the other in Georgia) consisting of three each; and in case of the absence of the President and Vice-President, at any meeting of the Board, they shall choose a President pro tempore.

Art. III. The President of the Board, or in case of his absence, the Vice-President shall preside at all meetings; and at the written request of any three members, call special meetings of the Board, by a circular letter to each member, stating the time, place and object of the meeting; and no business shall be transacted at such extra meetings, but what is specified in the circular.

Art. IV. The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Board, and carefully preserve on file the papers of the same; he shall also keep a record of their proceedings, which shall be submitted to the Synod for inspection.

Art. V. The Treasurer shall receive, manage, and (with the advice and consent of the appropriate Com-

mittee of Investment,) invest the funds of the Seminary, under the direction of the Board. He shall give bond for their faithful management, in such sum as the Board shall direct, with sufficient sureties, to the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South-Carolina and Georgia: He shall give receipts for all monies received; pay, upon the order of the President, countersigned by the Secretary, all monies appropriated by the Board; and make an annual report of the state of the funds, and of the expenditures of the Seminary to the Board of Directors.

Art. VI. The Committee of Investment shall aid, by counsel or otherwise, the Treasurer in investing the funds of the Seminary; and may, by a vote of the Board, be directed to invest, in their name, any part of the same—it having been previously received and acknowledged by the Treasurer: Provided, that all the permanent funds raised in the State of Georgia, shall be vested in that State, and shall be considered as belonging to the Synod of that State, should the Synod of South-Carolina and Georgia be so divided as to constitute a Synod in the State of Georgia, and a Theological Seminary be established within its bounds.

Art. VII. The Board shall direct in the management, and make all appropriations of the funds of the Seminary, subject to the revision and control of Synod.

Art. VIII. The Board of Directors shall inaugurate the Professors, and prescribe the forms and service of the the occasion. They shall also direct them in regard to the subjects of instruction, so far as not prescribed in the Constitution. And they shall inspect their conduct and doctrine; and if any Professor be found immoral in his conduct, unsound in the faith, opposed to the government of the Presbyterian Church, unfaithful to his trust, or incompetent to discharge his duties, they shall report him to Synod; or should his continuance in office be thought highly injurious or dangerous, the Board may immediately suspend him until his case be tried by Synod.

Art. IX. The Board of Directors shall watch over the conduct of the Students, redress their grievances, and when necessary expel them from the Seminary.

Art. X. The Board of Directors shall appoint a Committee of five, viz. three Clergymen and two Laymen, to attend each regular Examination of the Seminary. And in the presence of the Committee and the Faculty, the examination shall be conducted by the several instructors. The Committee shall report the result of the examination to the Board.

Art. XI. The Board of Directors shall appoint one of their number to deliver a Sermon before the Board, Professors and Students at their annual meeting.

Art. XII. The Board of Directors shall make a full and written report of the state of the Seminary at each stated meeting of Synod; and they may, at the same time, recommend the adoption of any measures they may deem necessary for the benefit of the Seminary.

Art. XIII. The Board shall further make all rules and regulations, appoint Agents, and generally do whatever they deem for the welfare of the Seminary; provided it shall not be repugnant to this Constitution, the orders of Synod, or the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church.

Art. 14. The Board shall open and close all their sessions by prayer.

SECTION V.

Professors and Faculty.

Art. I. The Professors of this Seminary, shall consist of any number the Synod may direct: But there shall not be less than five when the Seminary is fully organized, viz. a Professor of Biblical Literature; of Christian Theology; of Church History and Polity; of Pastoral Duties; and of Sacred Rhetoric.

Art. II. Every Professor in this Seminary shall be an ordained Minister of the Presbyterian Church.

Art. III. Every Professor, when inaugurated, shall publicly subscribe the Confession of Faith agreeably

to the following formula, viz :—" In the presence of God and this Board, I do solemnly subscribe the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, as a just summary of the doctrines contained in the Bible, and promise and engage not to teach directly or indirectly any doctrine contrary to this belief, while I continue a Professor in this Seminary."

Art. IV. Each Professor shall statedly reside near the Seminary; daily attend a private recitation with his own class; and publicly deliver a regular course of written Lectures before all the Students, during their course of studies, in the Seminary. He shall, also, precede and follow every public lecture, and precede every private recitation with prayer.

Art. V. Each Professor, soon after being inducted into office, shall furnish a list of the books, and exhibit a plan of the studies he designs for his department, to be approved or rejected by the Board of Directors; and no text-book or plan of instruction shall ever be adopted without their approbation.

Art. VI. The Professors, and such Assistants as the Board may employ, shall give regular instruction to the Students; and no other person shall instruct in the Seminary.

Art. VII. The Professors, agreeably to the directions of the Board, shall supply the Students with the preaching of the Gospel, and the administration of its ordinances.

Art. VIII. Any Professor, intending to resign his office, shall give six months notice of his intention to the Board.

Art. IX. The Professors shall constitute a Faculty of the Seminary, that shall meet on the first Monday of every month, and oftener if they deem it expedient. At all meetings of the Faculty, the Senior Professor shall preside; but, in every other respect, relating to the management of the Institution, or their connexion with the Board, the Professors shall be on a perfect equality, and all questions before them shall be decided by a majority of votes.

Art. X. The Faculty shall appoint a Clerk, and keep a fair record of their proceedings, which shall be submitted to the inspection of the Board at their annual meeting. The shall also in accordance with this Constitution, receive and act upon all applications for admission to the Seminary, and for charitable assistance; give certificates to Students applying to Presbyteries or other ecclesiastical bodies for license, and to those leaving the Seminary after completing their regular course of studies. They shall fix the time for social worship morning and evening, —the hours for private recitations—and the days for public lectures. They shall decide all questions of order, and cases of discipline; suspend any Student, (until tried by the Board) who, in their opinion, is unworthy the privileges of the Seminary, or whose connexion with the Institution would be injurious to its interests. They shall do generally whatever is deemed necessary for the successful regulation of the internal concerns of the Seminary; and report, in writing, the state of the same, to the Board of Directors at their annual meeting. And they may suggest improvements or subjects for the consideration of the Board.

SECTION VI.

Admission and Duties of Students.

Art. I. This Seminary shall be open for the admission of Students of every denomination, possessed of the requisite qualifications.

Art. II. Candidates for admission shall furnish the Faculty with satisfactory testimonials, from enlightened and pious persons, of their talents, piety and prudence—of having been regularly educated at some College or University, or made attainments deemed equivalent—and of being in full communion with some Christian Church:—or, if not members of the Church they shall subscribe the following declaration, viz:—"I do solemnly declare, that I believe the Bible to be of divine origin, and a perfect rule of faith and practice."

Art. III. Candidates furnishing these testimonials shall be examined by the Faculty, in the learned languages, on experimental religion, and with reference to their object in studying theology. This examination being satisfactory, they shall be presented with the Constitution of the Seminary, and received on trial for three months; during which time, they shall enjoy all the privileges of the Institution, and conform to all its requisitions.

Art. IV. At the end of this period, those whom the Faculty deem worthy, shall be admitted to a full standing in the Seminary, by subscribing the following declaration, viz:—"Deeply impressed with a sense of the importance of improving in knowledge, prudence and piety, preparatory to the Gospel Ministry, I solemnly promise, in reliance on divine grace, that I will faithfully and diligently attend to all the instructions of this Seminary, and that I will conscientiously and vigilantly observe all the rules and regulations specified in the Constitution, and also obey all the lawful requisitions, and readily yield to all the wholesome admonitions of the Professors and Directors of the Seminary, while I shall continue a member of it." Should any Student continue, for the space of one month, to refuse to subscribe the above declaration, after being regularly called upon by the Faculty to do so, he shall no longer enjoy the privileges of the Institution.

Art. V. The Students thus admitted to the Seminary, shall continue members of it three years, and be divided into three classes, to be called Senior, Middle and Junior. The Junior shall embrace those of the first year; the Middle those of the second; and the Senior those of the third.

Art. VI. The Students of the several classes shall reside at the Seminary, during the whole of each term, and be under the particular charge of their respective Professors. Nor shall any Student leave town, or be absent from any regular exercise of his class, or public exercise of the Seminary, without permission. And for each offence he shall render a satisfactory

excuse to the Professor of his class, or in case of his absence, to the Senior Professor present.

Art. VII. The Students shall sustain good moral and religious characters; manifest a due regard for the Directors, Professors, and each other; pursue the course of studies approved by the Board; observe the regulations of the Faculty respecting the hours of study, private recitations, public lectures and social devotions; and obey the requisitions of their several instructors.

Art. VIII. The Students of the Junior and Middle Classes, shall write compositions on such subjects, and at such times, as their Professors may direct; and shall submit the same to them for criticism. The Students of the Senior Class shall write, during the year, at least three Sermons, which shall be submitted to the Professor to whom the Board shall assign the duty, for private criticism and approval; and they shall alter and transcribe them until approved by his signature. And the Students of all the classes shall, if practicable, deliver a piece of their own composition before the Students and Professors, at least once in each month.

Art. IX. Any Student, who neglects his regular studies, is guilty of any indiscretion, exhibits an indifference to practical religion, or otherwise violates this Constitution, shall be faithfully admonished in private or before his class, as the Professor may deem expedient; if the Student perseveres in the same course, he shall be publicly admonished, or suspended from the Seminary, and reported to the Board by the Faculty; and if he still refuses to acknowledge, and make satisfaction for his offence, he shall be immediately cut off from the Institution by the Board.

Art. XI. Every Student, having completed a regular course of three years studies, in this Seminary, settled all his term bills with the Treasurer, and returned and replaced all the books taken from the Library, shall receive a Certificate from the Faculty, specifying the time he has been connected with the Seminary, the diligence he has manifested in his stu-

dies, and the moral and religious character he has sustained.

SECTION VII.

Course of Studies.

ART. I. The course of studies pursued in this Seminary, shall embrace a period of three years; it shall cover, in general, the ground of Biblical Literature, Christian Theology, Church History and Polity, Pastoral Duties, and Sacred Rhetoric; and none, who do not complete this course, shall be entitled to a regular certificate of the Faculty.

ART. II. The studies of the Junior year, shall be confined principally to the departure of Biblical Literature; those of the Middle, to Christian Theology; and those of the Senior, to Church History and Polity, Pastoral Duties, and Sacred Rhetoric. The more particular division of this course of studies, shall be made by the several Professors of the different departments, and pursued as approved by the Board.

ART. III. This course of studies shall be varied or extended as the improvements of the age may require; provided it never deviates from the Word of God, and the Standards of the Presbyterian Church.

SECTION VIII.

License, Ordination, and Preaching.

ART. I. No License to preach shall ever be given to any member of this Seminary, except by some regular Presbytery or other ecclesiastical body: And no Student shall ever preach without being thus regularly licensed; and none shall be licensed until near the close of the first term of Senior year.

ART. II. The Ordination of no Student shall take place, while he is a member of this Seminary, unless the Faculty deem it particularly desirable and necessary.

ART. III. No member of the Seminary, shall ever apply to any Presbytery or Ecclesiastical body to be licensed or ordained, without a certificate from the Faculty, stating the time he has been connected with

the Institution, the character he has sustained, and that, he makes the application with their consent.

Art. IV. Members of the Seminary, who have been regularly licensed, shall occasionally preach in the Institution, if required,—their Sermons having been previously examined and approved by one of the Professors: But they shall not preach out of the Seminary, except during the Spring vacation, without the permission of the Faculty.

Art. V. Any Student violating either article of this section relating to license, ordination, or preaching, shall be admonished or suspended, as the Faculty may deem expedient.

SECTION IX.

Resident Licentiates.

Art. I. Licentiates or Students, who have honorably completed a course of theological studies, may reside at this Institution, and enjoy the privilege of the Library, and also the public lectures and private recitations of the Professors.

Art. II. Persons thus residing at the Seminary, shall be under the inspection of the Faculty, and be required to attend the devotional exercises of the Institution.

SECTION X.

Devotion and Personal Piety.

Art. I. Sacred devotion and ardent piety shall ever be considered, by all connected with this Seminary, an object of the first moment. And every Professor, resident Licentiate, and Student, shall feel himself bound by the most solemn obligations, to employ all the means in his power, private and social, to promote it. Nor shall either be satisfied without high attainments in personal piety.

Art. II. To secure this object, all connected with the Institution, shall enjoy the privilege of spending a portion of each day in reading the Scriptures, private meditation, and secret prayer: Every Sabbath shall be sacredly devoted to religious services, private and

social: And other periods may be appropriated to social prayer and praise, for the mutual and spiritual benefit of those so engaged.

Art. III. Religious service shall be performed in the Chapel every morning and evening, during each term, at such hours as the Faculty may direct, and in the following order, viz: The service shall commence with a short prayer, imploring the aid and blessing of heaven; a portion of Scripture shall then be read, and accompanied with such remarks or written exposition as the presiding officer may think proper; after which a psalm, or hymn shall be sung, and the whole concluded with an appropriate prayer. These services shall be under the direction of one of the Professors; though a senior Student may occasionally officiate.

Art. VI. There shall be, at least, one weekly Conference appointed by the Faculty, with a design to promote the personal piety of the Students, and qualify them for the practical duties of the ministry. And if deemed expedient, the Faculty may occasionally set apart a day for fasting, humiliation and prayer, which shall be strictly observed by all the members of the Institution.

Art. V. Every member of the Seminary shall regularly, conscientiously, and devoutly attend all these religious services, and such others as the Faculty may appoint.

SECTION XI.

Examinations and Anniversary.

Art. I. There shall be two Examinations in each year—one at the close of each term, subject to the direction of the Board.

Art. II. There shall be a public Anniversary at the close of the second term in each year; the exercises of which, embracing the whole course of instruction, shall be limited to the Senior Class. The performances, on the occasion, shall all be written and previously examined and approved by the Professors.

Art. III. No member of the Seminary shall be absent from the examination of his respective class; if so, he shall be examined by the Faculty, at the commencement of the next term: And if his examination be not satisfactory, he shall be required to make up the deficiency, otherwise he may not proceed with the class.

Art. IV. The Examinations shall be conducted by the several Instructors, under the inspection of the Examining Committee of the Board: And the exercises of the Anniversary, shall all be arranged by the Faculty.

SECTION XII.

Vacations.

Art. I. There shall be two vacations in each year; at such times, and of such length, as the Board may direct.

Art. II. During each vacation, the Students shall be responsible to the Faculty of the Seminary for their conduct; and for any unworthy course that may injure the Institution, they shall be admonished, or may be suspended as the case requires.

Art. III. At the close of every vacation, the Students shall immediately return to the Seminary; and no excuse, for absense after the term commences, shall be deemed satisfactory, except sickness and unavoidable necessity.

SECTION XIII.

Library.

Art. I. The Library shall be deposited in a suitable room provided for the purpose; and committed to the care of a Librarian appointed by the Board.

Art. II. The Librarian shall give bond, when required by the Board, for the faithful management of the Library, in such sum, and with such sureties, as the Board may direct; and he shall, if necessary, be allowed a suitable sum for his services. He may also appoint a substitute, who shall, during the absence of the Librarian, discharge his duties.

Art. III. The books of the Library shall be regularly numbered and arranged by a Committee of the Board and the Librarian, who shall also furnish an alphabetical Catalogue for the use of the Library: And a fair record of all the books given, and of the names of the donors, shall be kept by the Librarian, for the inspection of all men.

Art. IV. Any book or books, which the above Committee may deem too valuable to be loaned from the Library, shall be marked and kept there for occasional reference; and they shall never be loaned by the Librarian without a special order from the Board.

Art. V. The Directors, Professors and Instructors, resident Licentiates, Students of the Seminary, and others to whom the Board, by a special order, shall grant the privilege, may take books from the Library.

Art. VI. No person shall ever borrow or return a book without the knowledge of the Librarian, or his substitute—who shall examine the state of the book, and keep a record of its title, also of the time and person. This record shall be signed by the person borrowing or returning the book; unless he be a Director, Professor or Instructor, who may obtain books by a written order: They may also have access to the Library, on all occasions, whether to return or receive books, or to consult them in the Library.

Art. VII. The Library shall be open for loaning and returning books during term time, two hours on Wednesdays und Saturdays: And no book shall be loaned or returned, at any other time, except as specified in the preceding article, or by the special order of a Professor. And no Student or resident Licentiate shall ever have more than three books, at the same time, in addition to the classics received upon the written order of an Instructor; nor shall he retain any book from the Library, more than four weeks; nor further, shall he ever carry any such book out of town.

Art. VIII. Any person, injuring or defacing a book taken from the Library, shall make due satisfaction to the Librarian; any person, detaining a book beyond the specified time, shall have no other till that be re-

turned; any person, loosing or destroying a book, shall replace it or pay its full value—and if belonging to a set, he shall take the remaining volumes and furnish a new set, or pay for the whole.

ART. IX. The Library shall be aired every week, and oftener if necessary; swept and dusted every month; and at the close of each term before the examination, the books shall be removed from the shelves and each shelf brushed; and at the end of every year all the books shall be returned to the Library, and the whole prepared for the inspection of the Board—to whom the Librarian shall make a full and written report of the state of the Library at each annual meeting.

SECTION XIV.

Funds and Charitable Assistance.

ART. I. The Funds of this Seminary shall ever be kept distinct, and entirely separate from all others; and they shall be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer, to be managed as required by this Constitution.

ART. II. All funds invested, for the benefit of the Institution, shall be invested in the name of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South-Carolina and Georgia, or as they may otherwise direct: And no part of the funds, or their income, shall ever be appropriated, except by an order of the Board, subject, at all times, to the revision and control of Synod: And the monies thus appropriated by the Board, shall be paid, by the Treasurer, only at the order of the President, countersigned by the Secretary.

ART. III. A sacred regard shall ever be paid to the wishes and directions of all Testators or Donors, who may bequeath, or give any thing to the funds of the Institution. Any individual or individuals, who shall by will, or otherwise, found or endow a Professorship, with $25,000, or a Scholarship, with 2,000 or more dollars, or a fund of any considerable amount, may designate the name by which it shall ever be called. And any Church Session, Presbytery, Synod, or other Association, which shall found, or endow a Professor-

ship, Scholarship, or Fund, may also fix the name by which it shall ever after be known.

Art. VI. The regular and incidental expenses of the Institution being defrayed from the general funds, or their income, all the remaining monies of these funds may be, and all funds, or their income, specially designed for charitable assistance, shall be sacredly appropriated to the use of worthy Students in need of pecuniary aid.

Art. V. To entitle any Student to this aid from the funds of the Seminary, he shall furnish the Board with a certificate from the Faculty, that he possesses the requisite qualifications, viz. has been admitted to a full standing in the Seminary according to the Constitution, and is in need of charitable assistance.

Art. VI. If any Student, to whom this assistance has been extended, shall be found not to make due proficiency in his studies, or otherwise to be unworthy, he shall no longer receive it. And if any shall leave the Seminary, or be expelled without finishing the regular course prescribed by the Constitution, he shall be held responsible to the Treasurer for the full amount of all the monies received, unless excused by a special vote of the Board.

Art. VII. A regular account of all the funds and expenditures of the Institution, and also of the number and names of the Students receiving charitable assistance, shall annually be laid before the Board by the Treasurer.

APPENDIX NO. III.

SOUTHERN

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Resolutions and plan of Operation.

1. *Resolved*, That the time has now fully come when the Southern Presbyterian Churches are loudly and imperiously called, by their Great Head, to engage systematically and heartily in the great work of spreading the Gospel.

2. *Resolved*, That the commission to disciple the nations—the promise of God respecting the latter day glory, and the present aspect of Divine Providence, forbid the Church in our day, to designate to herself a less field of labour than the World lying in darkness.

3. *Resolved*, That in prosecuting this work, it is expedient for the Churches to avail themselves, so far as they may severally choose to do so, of the experience and agency of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

4. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to adopt an organization, for the purpose of securing the object contemplated in the last resolution, and also of bringing the subject of Foreign Missions, directly and forcibly to bear upon the minds, and hearts, and Christian enterprize of our people, paying a due regard to their location, circumstances, and ecclesiastical habits.

5. *Resolved*, That this Synod invite the Synod of Tennessee to unite with them in this blessed and holy work.

6. *Resolved*, That this Synod do now commence operations, with the following

CONSTITUTION:

ARTICLE I. This organization shall be called "*the Southern Board of Foreign Missions.*"

ART. II. The object of this Board shall be, in connexion with the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, to promote within its bounds, in all Scriptural ways, the Missionary spirit, and to extend through every part of the earth, not contemplated in the plans of American Domestic Missionary Boards and Societies, the saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ART. III. The Board shall consist of three classes of members:

1. *Delegated Members* who shall be appointed by this Synod, electing *twenty-four* persons, *six* Ministers and six Lay-members of the Church, from each of the States composing this Synod; and every other State or Synod uniting in this organization, also electing *twelve* of like description, one-third of whom shall go out of office annually, but be re-elegible; the first *four* on the list, (*two* Minister and *two* Laymen) from each State or Synod, in alphabetical order, to go out at the end of the first year; the next *four* of like description, at the end of the second year, and subsequently, according to priority of election. The *Delegated Members* alone shall have the right of voting at any meeting of the Board.

2. *Honorary Members*, who shall become such by paying into the Treasury at one time, if clergyman, *fifty* dollars, if other persons *one hundred* dollars, and shall have the right of attending all the meetings and assisting in all the deliberations of the Board.

3. *Corresponding Members*, consisting of all members and officers of the A. B. C. F. M. and of the members of the several Synods united in constituting this Board. This Board may also, if at any time it shall be thought proper, elect *Corresponding Members*, residing in the United States, or elsewhere. It shall be the privilege of this class of members also, to attend the meetings and participate in the deliberations of the board, and their duty to communicate from time to time any information, which may promise usefulness to the Board. Certificates of mem-

bership shall be given—to *Delegated Members*, attested by the clerk of the Synod appointing them—to *Honorary Members*, by the Treasurer of the Board, and by the Secretary, of those persons who shall be at any time *elected Corresponding Members.*

Art. IV. The officers of the Board shall be, a President, and one Vice-President from each of the Synods, or States co-operating, an Executive Committee of Five, who need not be members of the Board, a Secretary, a Treasurer, two Auditors, and such other officers as shall from time to time be found necessary ; all of whom shall be chosen by the Board annually by ballot, and shall continue in office until successors are appointed.

It shall be the duty of the President, and in his absence, of the oldest Vice-President, and, in the absence of the President and Vice Presidents, of the oldest member present, to preside at all meetings of the Board, and to perform such other acts as shall, at any time, be assigned him by the Board.

The Executive Committee shall have the charge and management of the various interests and operations of the Board ; shall take all proper measures to create and cherish the missionary spirit, within the bounds of the Synods united in the organization ; to bring forward suitable Missionaries, and ascertain their individual qualifications ; to bring all the Churches to contribute regularly and liberally to the great cause of Missions ; to direct and sustain the Secretary and Treasurer in the performance of all their duties ; to appoint such other agents as may be needful in the prosecution of the work given them in charge ; and to report to each of the Synods creating the Board, at its regular annual meeting, a full account of their proceedings. They shall meet at least once in each month, and as much oftener as the business committed to them may require. Three members shall constitute a quorum at any Regular Meeting. They shall appoint a Chairman and Clerk, and keep an accurate and full record of their proceedings, and may adopt for themselves any by-laws not inconsistent with this Constitution, or the by-laws of the Board.

The Secretary shall devote himself to the business of the Board, from which he shall receive a competent support, to be fixed by the Executive Committee. He shall record all the proceedings of the Board—shall, unless the Executive Committee otherwise direct, prepare the annual report—shall conduct or superintend the correspondence of the Board, and of the Executive Committee, and shall act as General Agent within the limits of the Board, for the general, and permanent, and vigorous growth of the purposes of this organization. The Secretary may also be the Agent of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions within the limits of this Board.

The Treasurer shall take charge of all the monies paid into the Treasury of the Board, and give receipts therefor, and keep safely all the funds, notes, bonds, and other evidences of property, paying out monies only by order of the Executive Committee, taking proper vouchers for all sums so paid out, and keeping a fair and accurate account of all receipts and expenditures. He shall make a full and accurate Report to the Board at each annual meeting, properly audited, of the receipts and disbursements during the year, and make a monthly exhibit of the state of the funds to the Executive Committee, and whenever required by the Committee, exhibit his books, accounts, vouchers, and evidences of property. He shall be required by the Committee to give bond for the faithful execution of his trust, and may receive a suitable compensation to be fixed by the Committee. The Auditors shall examine the books and vouchers of the Treasurer thoroughly and particularly, at least once a year; if they shall find his accounts correctly kept, and accurately cast, and the payments well vouched, the balances satisfactorily accounted for, and the evidences of property duly exhibited, they shall give a certificate accordingly, which certificate they shall enter at large on the Treasurer's books, and shall cause a duplicate to be sent to the Board, with the Treasurer's annual Report.

Art. V. There shall be maintained, as far as possible, the most perfect harmony and co-operation between this Board and the American Board of Com

missioners for Foreign Missions, in the prosecution of the great work in which both Boards are engaged. To this end the Officers of this Board will avail themselves as far as may be practicable and mutually agreeable, of the assistance of the Officers of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and of its publications in exciting the Missionary spirit, and of bringing forward Missionaries. The Missionaries raised up, and licensed, and ordained, and the helpers in the direct work of Foreign Missions, brought forward within the limits of this Board, shall in all ordinary cases be commissioned as Foreign Missionaries, and assigned to their fields of labour, and be directed in their work by the Prudential Committee of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and the funds of this Board, after defraying the necessary expenses of its own operations, shall ordinarily be paid over to the Prudential Committee, to be by them applied in the prosecution of the work entrusted to their management. The funds may, if the Executive Committee shall see fit, be appropriated to any one or more of the Missions established by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, in which case particular accounts will be expected by the Executive Committee of the state and progress of those Missions, at least once in each year, and the Missionaries at those stations will be expected to correspond with the Secretary of this Board. If at any time it shall be found expedient, this Board may after full conference with the Prudential Committee of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, establish a Mission or Missions to be under the exclusive management of this Board, without such a proceeding being regarded as interfering with the harmony and union existing between the two bodies.

Art. VI. The annual meeting of this Board shall be held at the time and place of the annual meetings of the several Synods co-operating—beginning with the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, coinciding the second year, with the meeting of the Synod of Tennessee, and so on in regard to these Synods, or

any other that may hereafter be formed within their present limits, and concur in this organization; provided always that this Synod shall be entitled to two annual meetings, one in each State, during a period affording but one to any other Synod.

At the annual meeting the reports of the Executive Committee, and of the Treasurer and Auditors, shall be made, officers shall be chosen for the year, and the necessary business transacted, and such exercises had in connection with the meeting, as shall seem best adapted to contribute effectually to the promotion of the objects of the organization.

At the meeting of the other Synod or Synods, at which the annual meeting of the Board will not occur in any year, the Secretary shall attend and present the Report previously offered, or soon to be offered, at the annual meeting of the Board, and have such exercises as are usually connected with the annual meeting for the promotion of the spirit and objects of this organization. Special meetings of the Board, when necessary may be called, and the time and place of the meeting fixed by the Executive Committee. At all meetings of the Board, *nine* members shall constitute a quorum.'

ART. VII. Any part of this Constitution, not touching the relations of this Board to the A. B. C. F. M. may be altered by the Board at every annual meeting by a vote of two thirds of the members present. Other alterations shall be made by a vote of two thirds of the members composing a session of each of the Synods, entering into this plan.

7. *Resolved.* That any changes made by the Synod of Tennessee in the foregoing Constitution, which shall not affect the vital and essential nature of our relations, and which shall not be objected to by the members of the Board, delegated by this Synod, may become a part of this Constitution.

8. *Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk of this Synod be instructed, to furnish an attested copy of their proceedings, to the Synod of Tennessee, and that that body be affectionately invited to co-operate with this Synod in the organization herein contemplated.

9. *Resolved*, That the Board be requested to appoint a delegation to bring this subject, on behalf of this body, before the Synod of Tennessee at its next regular meeting.

10. *Resolved*, That the organization herein contemplated shall go into immediate operation, and that for this purpose, the first meeting of the Southern Board of Foreign Missions, be held in Columbia, S. C. on Monday, the 9th inst. for the purpose of choosing officers and commencing operations.

11. *Resolved*, That said meeting be opened by a sermon to be preached by the Rev. William S. Plumer.

12. *Resolved*, That the Synod most earnestly commend the subject of Foreign Missions to the attention of the Churches, and that Rev. Dr. Leland, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Gildersleeve, be a Committe to draft a pastoral letter on the great subject to be sent down to each of our Churches.

13. *Resolved*, That the present state of the world, and the exigencies of the Missionary cause, calling for competent Missionaries, do call upon the members of the Synod, to take into consideration the question of their own personal duty in reference to this subject, and also to direct special attention to the bringing forward of suitable men for this great and good work.

14. *Resolved*, That the Synod earnestly recommend to all our Churches the observance of the first Monday of January next, as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, for the conversion of the world, in conformity with the recommendation of the last General Assembly.

15. *Resolved*, That nothing herein contained, shall be so construed, by any person, church or Presbytery, as to interfere in the least, with any arrangement that has been made, or shall be made with any other Foreign Missionary Society now in existence.

16 *Resolved*, That nothing herein contained shall be expressive of any other than feelings of friendship and approbation of the objects of the Western Missionary Society, and that if any person, Church, or

Presbytery, within our bounds, shall prefer a direct connexion with that Society, this Synod will heartily concur in such arrangement.

17. *Resolved*, That this Synod acknowledge with gratitude the goodness of God in bringing before them the great subject of Foreign Missions, and in directing them to a unanimous and blessed result.

PASTORAL LETTER

IN RBFERENCE

To the Southern Board of Foreign Missions.

We have the privilege and pleasure of announcing to you the formation of a *Southern Board of Foreign Missions.* This event, so long and ardently desired, so well adapted to unite the hearts, and elicit the energies and treasures of all who love the Missionary cause in its vigorous prosecution, must be hailed with devout gratitude to the Great Head of the Church, as a special token of His favour to our Southern Zion.

You are well aware of the embarrassments which have impeded our endeavours to engage efficiently in the glorious work of evangelizing the world, arising from the distance of the centre of action, and the want of a medium of direct co-operation. We have long mourned that the treasures of our Churches have been so sparingly bestowed, and their moral power so feebly exerted in this blessed enterprize of benevolence ; and it has been painfully evident, that this apparent apathy was owing to the fact that no separate organization existed among ourselves.

But while it has long been perceived that a Southern Board of Foreign Missions was greatly needed, to unite our Churches in a zealous, active engagement in the mighty work ; yet such were the difficulties and discouragements which seemed to oppose such an institution, that its warmest advocates cherished but slender hopes of its successful establishment. It is therefore with livelier emotions of thankfulness, that we record the special intervention of a gracious Providence, in the suggestion and harmonious adop-

tion of a system of separate organization, for our section of country, which obviates the difficulties and objections that were apprehended, and opens in our own borders, a wide and inviting entrance to that field of labour, which is the world.

As it has thus pleased the Father of Mercies to remove the lamented impediments which have so long hindered us from engaging unitedly and vigorously in this great work ; and to lead us to adopt a system of operation, so promising and unobjectionable, we affectionately invite you, dear brethren, to engage with united hearts, in the proposed measures, which will secure to us all the inestimable privilege of being actively employed in sending the Gospel to all nations ; and which will also entitle us to those peculiar blessings which always enrich those Churches, whose labours and offerings are freely devoted to the perishing heathen.

By examining the Constitution of our new Board of Foreign Missions—a copy of which accompanies this letter—you will readily perceive, that it is an institution entirely our own—that our Synod possesses an entire and uncontrolled management of its interests and concerns—and that it has no farther connexion with the American Board, than is necessary to secure all the advantages desirable from its assistance and co-operation. In those departments of Missionary effort, where separate action will be most efficient, such as the raising and management of funds—the training of Missionaries and assigning their fields of labour—our Board is entirely independent. And only in those respects, where a united action will be manifestly advantageous—indeed indispensable, will it be associated with the venerable institution already mentioned.

And now permit us, dear brethren, in the name and by direction of our Synod, respectfully and earnestly to entreat your attention to some considerations, designed to engage your prayers, labours and contributions, in carrying forward this plan of mercy to a glorious accomplishment.

1. We affectionately remind you of your solemn, inviolable obligations as Christians, to be actively engaged in sending the Gospel to all your fellow-

men. The command of the ascending Redeemer, who shed his blood to save us, enjoins this great duty upon every one of his disciples. The enjoyment of the blessings purchased by the blood of the Lamb, is ever accompanied with a sacred obligation to make known to the ignorant and perishing, the glad tidings of salvation.

The spirit of the Gospel is essentially a Missionary spirit; inspiring all under its influence with spontaneous, irrepressible desires, that all men may believe and be saved.

The example of Him who came from heaven to save the lost and the guilty, and gave his life a ransom for strangers and enemies, urges resistless claims upon all who bear his name and love his cause, to diffuse as widely as possible, the blessings purchased by his blood.

In fine, we are all absolutely required by the plainest principles of Christianity to manifest towards heathen nations of the present age, the same compassion and benevolence, which, in times long passed, rescued our own pagan ancestors, from darkness and degradation.

2 Allow us to lay before you some of the *motives* and *encouragements* to an united and vigorous engagement in the cause of Foreign Missions.

The word of God, and the uniform experience of the Church render it certain, that zealous labours for the conversion of all men, have a direct and powerful tendency, to advance the cause of vital godliness at home. If you steadfastly believe that he that watereth shall himself be watered, you need no farther assurance, that the blessings you measure out to perishing millions, will flow back in rich abundance into your own community, your own families, your own bosoms. Where can be found one Church, or one individual, distinguished for labours and sacrifices in the cause of Missions, that is not equally distinguished for spiritual prosperity? Christians, whose hearts glow with strong desires, and whose hands are employed in active exertions, for the universal extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom, cannot remain in a languid, formal, divided state—cannot slumber over the evils and dangers which imme-

diately surround themselves. Therefore, dear brethren, if you mourn over the desolations of our Zion—if you long to see her walls arise, her gates crowded with converts—engage, we entreat you, with holy energy of soul, in this noble Christian enterprize, and thereby *prove me saith the Lord, if he will not pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room to receive it.*

The uniform history of Missionary efforts render it undeniable, that the more Christians feel and do, to enlighten and save pagans abroad, the more intense will be their solicitude, the more strenuous their endeavours to raise the standard of piety, and promote genuine revivals at home. It is impossible that a religious community, whose hearts are really moved in view of the misery and degradation of the nations that sit in darkness; and whose prayers and offerings are devoted to the great work of sending to such the light of life, and opening among them fountains of mercy—we say it is impossible for Christians thus engaged, to be cold and negligent, as to the state of religion among themselves. According to the very principles of our nature, there must be, and always is, a powerful reflex influence from efforts to evangelize the heathen. And we have the most unshaken confidence that all the Churches, Sunday Schools, and Bible Classes, you establish among pagans, will be directly instrumental in raising up ten times as many similar institutions among yourselves. Besides, the work of Foreign Missions is so vast—its demands for active, self-denying exertion, so multiplied and pressing, that it summons all the followers of Christ, of every age and station, especially all young disciples, into the vineyard of spiritual labour, and thus universally and powerfully promotes personal piety. While thus the baleful effects of inaction and slothfulness are prevented, by the inspiring calls and animating prospects of this great enterprize, it also ennobles and elevates the character of Christians, and unites them by stronger and more endearing ties. Those whose hearts are so enlarged by love, as to embrace the world—so high and holy in purpose, as to be co-workers with God in sending the blessings of redemption to all men—cannot, dare not, be under the influence of prejudice and party—

cannot descend to mingle in the degrading conflicts of sectarian bitterness or personal controversy. Therefore, dear brethren, if you would promote peace and harmony among yourselves—if you would banish discord and jealousy—if you long to see all our Ministers and members in one united phalanx of Christian love pressing forward under the Gospel banner—we entreat you to embrace the most effectual means of producing so blessed a consummation, by engaging heartily in the great work of converting the world.

Besides these motives of a general character, we would suggest some encouragements, which have a special reference to the Churches in the bounds of our own Synod. One of these encouraging facts is, that Divine Providence has placed us under most favourable circumstances for Missionary effort, by assigning us a climate similar to that of the larger portion of the heathen world; so that our sons will encounter vastly less hardship and peril, and enjoy much greater facilites in tropical regions, than those born in a higher latitude.

Another animating circumstance is, that amid the criminal apathy which has pervaded our Churches upon this subject, it has pleased God to put it into the hearts of several of our most promising young men, to devote their lives to this blessed cause. Nor can we omit to mention, with devout gratitude to God, that of the first class, which has completed the course, in our beloved Seminary, one-third have given themselves to Missions among the heathen.

There is still another fact, dear brethren, in relation to yourselves, which deserves serious consideration. It is that God has blessed you with abundance. There is, perhaps, no part of the world where the rewards of industry are so rich, as among ourselves. Hence, arises a fearful danger to Christians and their families. The temperance, economy, and diligence, which result from true piety, naturally produce affluence. And the effect of affluence upon Christians and their children, is grievously to impede the spiritual progress of the former, and frequently to drown the latter in destruction and perdition. Here then the cause of Foreign Missions presents an illimitable claim, a noble appropriation for the abounding gifts

of Providence. And thus the problem is solved, how a Christian man can be successful in business, and enjoy a large income, without ruining the souls of his children, and piercing himself through with many sorrows. Be entreated, dear brethren, to adopt the noble resolution—"to *make* all you can, to *save* all you can, and to *give* all you can," to the cause of Missions and then your wealth and prosperity will prove a blessing and not a curse to yourselves and the Church.

3. We are fully aware of the common objections, which are continually urged against embarking in this great enterprise, and which have discouraged so many from coming up to the *help of the Lord against the mighty*. We proceed therefore very briefly to consider some of those arguments which are occasionally used by good men, to vindicate their backwardness to go, or to send, *into all the world to preach the Gospel to every creature.*

Are any ready to say, we have waste places and desolations at home, which demand as efficient means and efforts as our Churches have ever employed? Then verily, those means and efforts should be increased ten fold; so as to do vastly more than you have ever done at home, and yet reserve your chief resources to meet the calls of a dying world. And if it be true as we have said, that the streams of mercy which you send forth to gladden the regions, where withering famine reigns, will flow back in a full tide of blessings to yourselves—then manifestly the most effectual way, of making your own beloved land the garden of the Lord, is to labour for the universal spread of the Gospel.

Is it urged that there is a loud call for ministers for our own churches, and therefore we ought not to send away our young men to foreign lands, when their labors are imperiously required at home? Upon this point, dear brethren, we would say in the language of scripture, *there is that scattereth and yet increaseth.* It is our unshaken conviction, in which we are sustained by unquestionable facts, that the most efficacious method of greatly increasing the number of faithful devoted candidates for the Ministry, is to send part of them "far away to the Gentiles." Can any

event be more likely to render a Christian family eminently spiritual, than the departure of a beloved son and brother, as a herald of the cross to distant pagan nations; and will not the younger brothers of such a man be likely to supply his lack of service at home? Is it possible that a church, having some of her beloved members engaged in a foreign mission, can fail of receiving an elevating, sanctifying influence from such a circumstance? and will not its direct tendency be to call for other labourers, from the same church, into the vineyard of the Lord? We know of no richer blessing which can descend upon a family, a congregation, and especially upon a Theological Seminary, than the designation of some of its members to the work.

There are other objections, to the prosecution of this good work, which are raised by unbelief, and which hardly deserve a serious reply.

Tell us not that the time has not come, for the conversion of the world, and therefore that it is presumption to attempt it.

We say the time has come when all who love the Redeemer are under imperative obligations to obey his final, positive command.

Tell us not that the field is too vast, the enterprize too difficult, the obstacles too formidable. It is too late for such unbelieving suggestions. The work is triumphantly begun—the gates of brass *have* yielded—Jordan is divided—the gates of heathen prejudice are falling at the blast of the Gospel trumpet, and you are called to enter in and possess the land.

Tell us not of the millions of treasure, or the precious lives which must be sacrificed, in this glorious achievement. What is wealth, when weighed in the balance, with the eternal destinies of half the human race: and what greater honour and felicity can be gained by mortal man, than to lay down life in such a cause? In view of these considerations, we affectionately appeal to your consciences, dear brethren, whether we can be longer satisfied with such poor excuses, and continue so languid and inefficient in discharging this cardinal duty to our perishing fellow men, of sending them *the unsearchable riches of Christ.* The time has fully come, we confidently be-

lieve, when our churches are commanded to awake, to put on strength, to gird themselves and go forward to the work of subduing all nations, by the sword of the Spirit, to the dominion of the King of Kings. This confident persuasion arises not only from reflecting upon the "signs of the times," and the extraordinary aspect both of the Christian and pagan world; but especially from the manner and circumstances of the present movement among us upon this subject, and the evident leadings of Providence in the formation of the Southern Board of Missions.

It was no concerted plan among our ministers, no excited feeling in the churches, that led to this important organization. The subject came before the Synod, when their minds and hearts were fixed upon other duties, seized their attention and opened to their view such a prospect of success, as produced a most cordial and animated engagement in the blessed enterprize.

And now, Christian brethren, we lay before you this system for united, vigorous and efficient action in the cause of Foreign Missions, and affectionately entreat you to unite together with your brethren, in carrying it into full operation. You will soon be visited by an agent of the Board, a beloved son of the Southern Church, who has devoted himself to a Foreign Mission, by whom the subject will be more fully laid before you, and through whose instrumentality we trust the best measures will be adopted, in every congregation, to insure the most enlarged success, in this great work of benevolence.

We cannot doubt that you will joyfully hail the missionary organization as the harbinger of better and brighter days to our Southern Zion. You have now a Board of Foreign Missions, which is indeed your own. It opens to you a field of labour which is appropriated to yourselves. The centre of action and communication is no longer among strangers. Southern Presbyterians can now act as a body, within their own borders.

We offer you our heartfelt congratulations, on the prospect before us. We enter the field under most favorable auspices. The high way to the nations is now open and unobstructed. The most formidable

obstacles have been removed, and wide regions prepared for us, by the toil and perseverance of those noble pioneers who have sacrificed their lives in its commencement; and we enjoy all the important advantages and facilities which have been so dearly purchased. Through numerous channels thus opened, we can pour the streams of our charity, to fertilize any of the barren regions of the earth. We can either select a single portion of pagan territory, and concentrate our efforts in its cultivation; or we can spread out our benefactions, and disperse our missionaries to every quarter of the globe; so as to feel a direct and personal interest, in all the missionary stations. Thus our Seminary may be honoured as the nursery of trees of righteousness, whose leaves shall be for the healing of the nations. Thus our Churches may be enriched by the reflex influence of their beloved sons, stationed as lights of the world on far distant shores; and thus our own prayers and labors will be animated by the consideration that our friends and brethren are leading the armies of the Lord, to the conquest of the world.

Permit us, dear brethren, in view of such motives and proposals, earnestly to exhort you to give all diligence to excite and cherish, in your congregations a spirit of missions, corresponding to the present crisis. Among the means necessary for the purpose, we recommend regular and devout attendance upon the monthly concert of prayer, and the diffusion of the intelligence contained in the Missionary Herald.

By thus promoting an ardent, enlightened zeal in the missionary cause, we feel assured you will most effectually advance the cause of vital experimental religion; for "*the Spirit of Missions is the spirit of Jesus Christ.*"

We cannot conclude this long and desultory letter, without again adverting to the memorable circumstances which attended the final vote in the Synod, on adopting the Constitution of our board of Missions. It was a scene "never to be forgotten, and never remembered, but with grateful emotions."

The subject had been laid before Synod, in a most providential manner; and while there was a decided

and united feeling in favor of the plan; yet in the view of some, mountains of difficulty were in our way, and others were tempted to shrink from the magnitude of the undertaking. At this moment of trembling suspense, an influence from above evidently descended upon the whole assembly. Instantly there was such a gush of devout feeling, such a melting of heart, such an evident overpowering sense of the immediate presence of God, as *we* never before witnessed. Before this influence, the objections vanished, the mountains flowed down. Then it was, that all the members of Synod knelt down in prayer; then rising upon their feet, as by one common impulse, and by one united voice, they adopted the Constitution, and while standing they sung with thrilling pathos the "Missionary Hymn," while almost every face was bathed in tears, and almost every frame trembled with intense emotion; and thus closed a scene in an ecclesiastical assembly, the like of which our eyes never saw, our hearts never conceived.

All who were present will bear witness how meagre and inadequate is this description. And this may well be, for religious emotion cannot be described. But we trust all of them will heartily unite with us in devoutly supplicating—

> "My God, repeat that heavenly hour,"
> "That vision so divine."

Our object in calling your attention to this memorable incident, in connexion with all the other circumstances, accompanying this organization, is to fix in your minds the same deep settled conviction which we cherish ourselves, that this council or design is not of man, but of God; and thus to inspire you with the same high confidence which we feel, that it will issue in results, which will tend to enlighten and bless the world.

In the bonds of Christian fellowship, we are, dear brethren, your affectionate servants in the Gospel.

Signed by order of the Synod,

A. W. LELAND,
THOMAS SMITH,
B. GILDERSLEEVE.